

# Occupational Therapists & the International Standard Classification of Occupations

Claudia von Zweck, PhD

Donna Klaiman, MEd

Marilyn Pattison, B.App.Sc. (OT), FWFOT

# Objectives:

- Introduce the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO)
- Discuss WFOT concerns regarding the ISCO
- Review WFOT advocacy efforts

# Purpose of the ISCO:

- Developed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO)
- Framework for international reporting, comparison and exchange of statistical and administrative data
- Model for development of national classifications

# ISCO 08 Classification of Occupational Therapists:

- Listed under “Other health professions not elsewhere described”
- Prevents segregation of data
- Impedes growth and development of the profession

# WFOT Advocacy Strategy:

- Communicate regularly with ILO
- Conduct a baseline survey
- Develop a lobby toolkit
- Obtain letters of support for reclassification of occupational therapists in the ISCO

# Template Advocacy Tools:

- Ask letter for requesting action
- Background material
- Briefing note
- Thank you letter

# ISCO 08 Revision:

- ISCO updated every 10 – 20 years
- Revision to be considered in 2018

# References:

- International Labour Office. (2013). The case to update or revise the International Standard Classification of Occupations, 2008 (ISCO-08). Geneva: International Labour Organization.
- International Labour Organization. (2012). International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-08): Volume I – structure, group definition and correspondence tables. Geneva: International Labour Organization.
- World Federation of Occupational Therapists, von Zweck, C., Klaiman, D, Pattison, M. (2017). International Standard Classification of Occupations survey report: Implications for the World Federation of Occupational Therapists. *WFOT Bulletin*, 73, 80-82.