# Mental Health Occupational Therapy Practice: International Experience

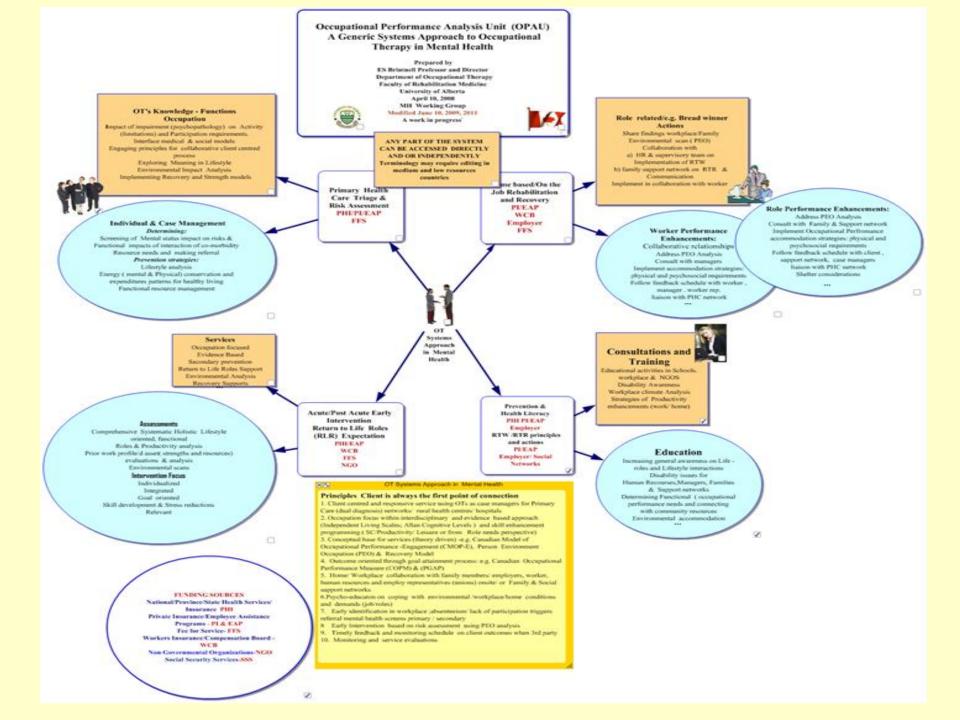
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# Schematic for Generic MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE MODEL



### **WHO**

#### Global Mental Health Action Plan

#### Vision

A world in which mental health is valued, mental disorders are effectively prevented and in which persons affected by these disorders are able to access evidence-based health and social care and exercise the full range of human rights to attain the highest possible level of health and functioning free from stigma and discrimination.

### **Cross-cutting Principles**

### Universal access and equity

All persons with mental disorders should have equal and equitable access to health care and opportunities to achieve or recover the highest attainable standard of health, regardless of age, gender, or social position.

#### Human rights

Mental health strategies, actions, and interventions for treatment, prevention and promotion must be compliant with international human rights conventions and agreements.

#### Evidence-based practice

Mental health strategies and interventions for treatment, prevention and promotion need to be based on scientific evidence and good practice.

#### Life course approach

Mental health policies, plans, and services need to take account of health and social needs at all stages of the life course, including children, adolescents, adults, and older adults.

#### Multisectoral approach

A comprehensive and coordinated response of multiple sectors such as health, education, employment, housing, social and other relevant sectors should be utilized to achieve objectives for mental health.

#### Empowerment of persons with mental disorders

Persons with mental disorders should be empowered and involved in mental health policy, planning, legislation, service provision, and evaluation.

#### Goal

To promote mental well-being, prevent mental disorders, and reduce the mortality and disability for persons with mental disorders

### **Objectives and Targets**

- To strengthen effective leadership and governance for mental health
- T 1.1: 80% of countries will have updated their mental health policies and laws (within the last 10 years) by year 2016.
- T 1.2: 80% of countries will be allocating at least 5% of government health expenditure to mental health by year 2020.

- To provide comprehensive, integrated and responsive mental health and social care services in community-based settings
- T 2.1: The number of beds used for longterm stays in mental hospitals will decrease by 20% by year 2020, with a corresponding increase in the availability of places for community-based residential care and supported housing.
- T 2.2: The treatment gap for severe mental disorders will be reduced by 50% by year 2020.

- To implement strategies for mental health promotion and protection including actions to prevent mental disorders and suicides
- T 3.1: 80% of countries will have at least two national, multisectoral mental health promotion and protection programmes functioning by year 2016 (one universal, one targeted on vulnerable groups).
- T 3.2: Rates of suicide in countries will be reduced by year 2020.

- To strengthen information systems, evidence and research for mental health
- T 4.1: A global observatory for monitoring the mental health situation in the world will be established by year 2014.
- T 4.2: 80% of countries will be collecting and reporting at least a core set of mental health indicators annually by year 2020.

Domain of Profession
Professional/ clinical reasoning
Occupation focus (task analysis)
Enablement

# WHAT DO OTS DO IN MENTAL HEALTH?

## Occupational Therapy and Mental Health

The purpose of occupational therapy is described by AOTA's motto, "Occupational therapy: living life to its fullest."

Skills for the Job of Living

http://psychcentral.com/lib/occupational-therapy-and-mental-health/

### Occupational Therapy and Mental Health

### **Assessments and Treatments**

Common to all areas of practice

- Activities of daily living (e.g., bathing, dressing, eating)
- Instrumental activities of daily living (e.g., driving, money management, shopping)
- Education
- Work (paid and volunteer)
- Play
- Leisure

## Occupational Therapy and Mental Health

- Leisure
- Social participation
- Motor processing skills
- Mental and cognitive processing skills
- Communication and interaction skills
- Habits, roles and routines
- Performance contexts (e.g., cultural, physical, spiritual)Activity demands
- Client factors (e.g., difficulties due to body structures or functions)
- Occupational self-assessment"

Occupational therapy can be vitally important in the overall mental health treatment process.

### Following are some common interventions:

- Life skills training
- Cognitive rehabilitation
- Supported employment
- Supported education
- Social and interpersonal skills training
- Life balance intervention
- Modalities such as biofeedback and mindfulness-enhanced therapy

# Individualized Psychoeducational and Therapeutic Session

May required additional post graduate education / certification for advanced skills

### **Part of Collaborative Process**

Occupational therapists collaborate with Client, family and many other professionals to help individuals on their road to recovery.

Role of the occupational therapist may overlap with other team members, (Mental Health Therapist)

The occupational therapist provides a unique occupation based focus and theoretical and clinical contributions to the recovery and treatment team.

### **Part of Collaborative Process**

Occupational therapy should be considered a vital part of a comprehensive and integrated treatment program.

Full range of service from Acute to community recovery

Therapeutic Use of Self (the Interactional Self)

Is the most powerful tool you have,

# Culture as Context

Increasingly the importance of "context" is emerging throughout the (OT) literature as a consideration in occupational therapy (OT) program planning.



Christianson & Baum 2004
Dunn, Brown, Younstrom 2003
American Occupational Therapy Association 2002

# Culture and Mental Health

Cultural experiences can mask mental Illness

It is a key area to monitor in diverse society

### The first OTs in Canada



Our communities

Increasingly becoming more culturally diverse

Thus requiring health professionals to have greater sensitivity and awareness.

What do we understand to be a cultural consideration?

How do we begin to develop an understanding of "other" so that we may be sensitive to meanings and perceptions of health?

### Answer

- Achieve a greater understanding of our own values and beliefs
- Be respectful of, interested in and understanding of other cultures without being judgemental

Broaden our views through experiences in other

cultures

Gain knowledge of wellness and illness



# Current OT Thinking Culture as Context

Contexts is defined as: " a set of interrelated conditions that surround a person."

It can also draw on environmental factors and surroundings.



# Context of the Person Including Self - Therapist

2 primary Contexts identified in OT:

Temporal- chronological age, developmental stage, life cycle & health status

Environment – physical social & cultural

# One of the most influential contexts is "culture".



**Cultural Expressions** 

Norms & Values
Beliefs & Behaviors
Traditions (food) & Symbols
Lifestyles - Rituals & Gender Roles

Cultural Associations (identity building)



Ethnicity & Social class Religious, Political, Geographic region Schools, Clubs & organizations Work /Career/ Positions

Shared set of understandings between persons similarly socialized

#### **FUNCTIONS OF CULTURE**

Culture is learned, shared ,compelling, interrelated set of symbols whose meaning provides

a set of orientations for members of society. These orientations provide solutions to issues and problems that must be solved is society is to remain viable.

Terpstra & David, 1991

### SOCIETAL PROBLEMS

- Obtaining food, clothing shelter
- Protection from enemies and natural disasters
- Regulation of sexuality
- Child raising & instruction in socially approved behaviours
- Division of labour

Providing social controls against deviant behaviour

Providing incentives to motivate persons to want to do what they should

Distributing power and legitimizing its use to set priorities, make decision to obtain society's goals

Providing a sense of priorities (values) and an overall sense of worth (religion) to social life

# OT conceptual Frameworks include "culture" in some dimension

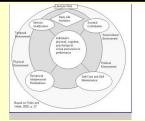
MODEL of HUMAN OCCUPATION KIELHOFNER ET AL.

CANADIAN MODEL of
OCCUPATIONAL PERFORMANCE
CANADIAN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
ASSOCIATION

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE FRAMEWORK, AMERICAN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION ECOLOGY MODEL OF OCCUPATION DUNN, BROWN & YOUNGSTROM

LIFESTYLE PERFORMANCE MODEL VELDE & FIDLER

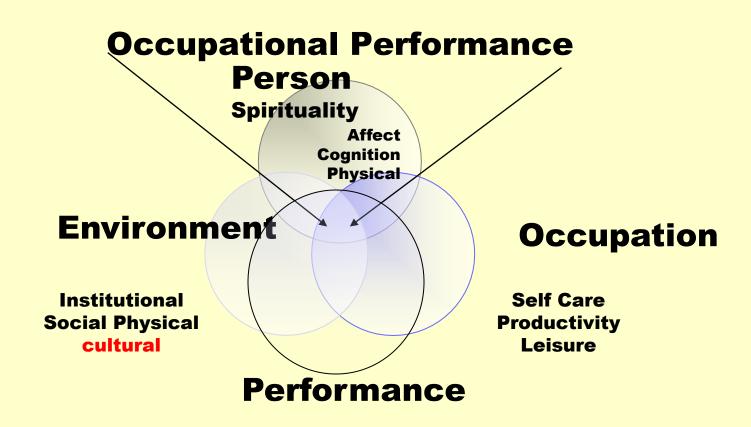
PERSON ENVIRNOMENT OCCUPATION Law et al.



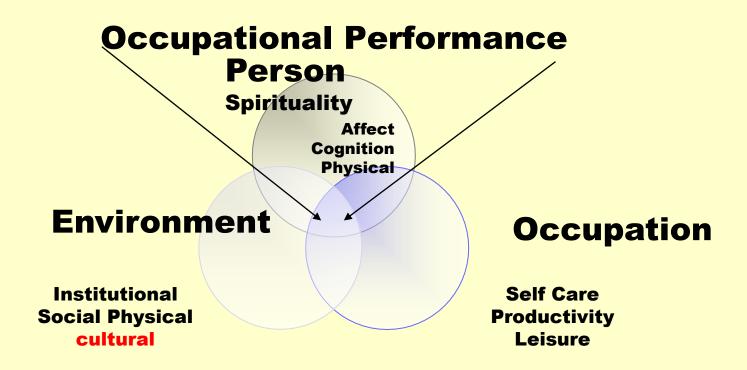
PERSON ENVIRNOMENT OCCUPATION PERFROMANCE

Christiansen & Baum

# Person Environment Occupation Model - PEOP

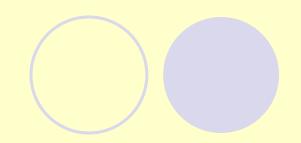


# Person Environment Occupation Model - PEO



**Interactional Analysis** 

# Cultural Impacts in Practice Beyond the Client/Patient

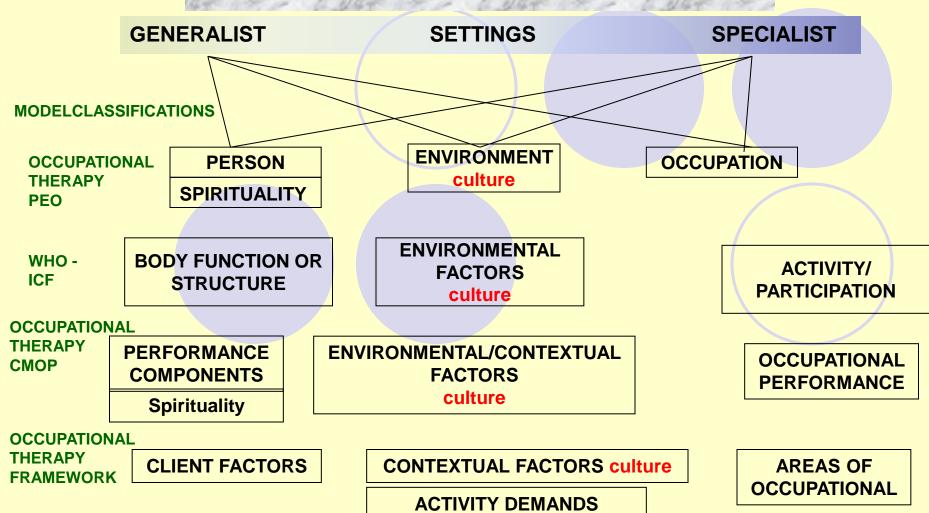


In every practice specialization, culture is reflected in the climate of our workplaces, in the perspectives that our clients come with and those that we as individuals not just therapist hold.

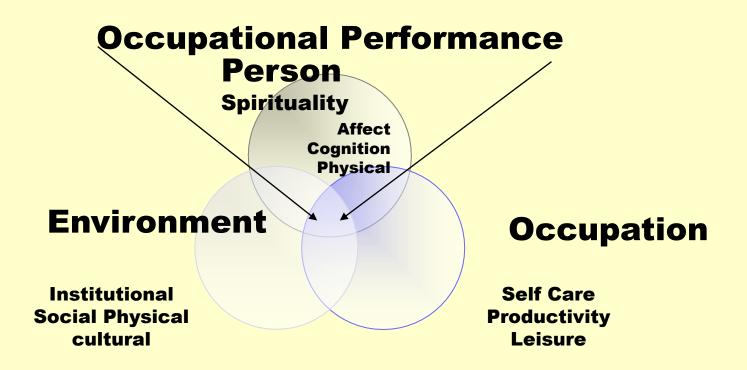
All these cultural orientations interact and assert themselves on the dynamics of the OT process.

### **OT PRACTICE**

### MODEL CONSTRUCT COMPARISON ON CULTURE



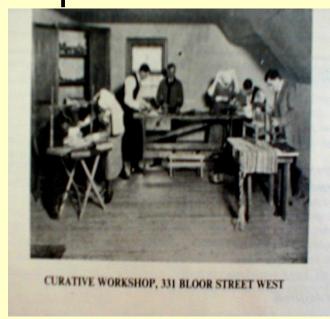
# Person Environment Occupation Model - PEO



**Interactional Analysis** 

# Mental Health Practice Has Other Sets Of Challenges

Demands greater understanding and knowledge of mental illness as well as its expression within specific cultures.



Many with invisible limitations participation

Community 1940's

# Applications in Practice

### Enhance communication:

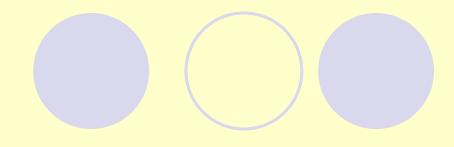
- Determine Language fluency and use interpreter
- Ask client how they wish to be addressed
- Allow client to choose comfortable seating and positioning for eye contact and determine personal space needs
- Beware of cultural interpretation of body gestures and language
- Speak directly to client even if interpreter present

# Applications in Practice

### Enhance communication:

- Avoid slang, jargon and complex sentences
- Use open ended questions and alter phrasing as required to ensure understanding
- Determine reading ability before using written material
- Check client's understanding often and do not assume

# OT Global







### Cultural Features in Mental Illness.

In mental health, clients from different cultures may display phenomena which can be misperceived as

illness-bound

 Prepare for client by readings in transcultural psychiatric

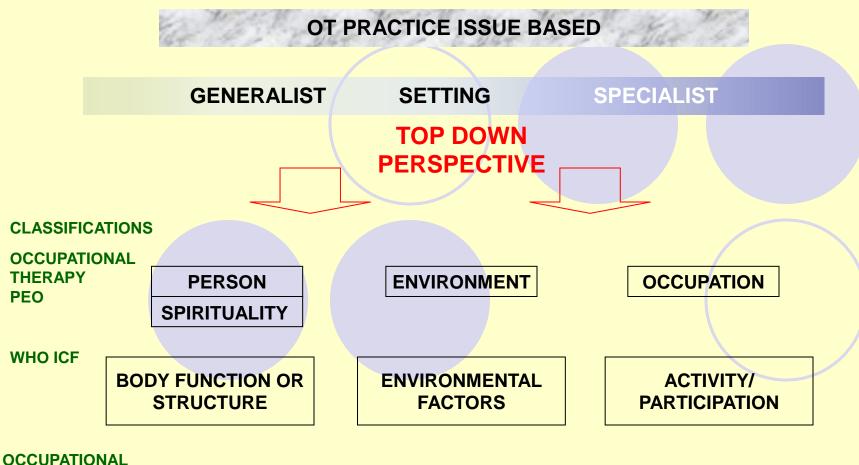
- use the client as a resource
- Meaning is personal and symbols can be misinterpreted-check it out
- Actions as displayed in activity engagement can communicate information – piano man
- DSM IV TR Appendix I Cultural Features- See TEXT

## CULTURAL ASSESSMENTS

TOP DOWN - OCCUPATIONAL PERFORMANCE

**BOTTOM UP - COMPONENTS & CONTEXTS** 

### OT PRACTICE (SERVICES)



**THERAPY CMOP** 

**PERFORMANCE COMPONENTS** 

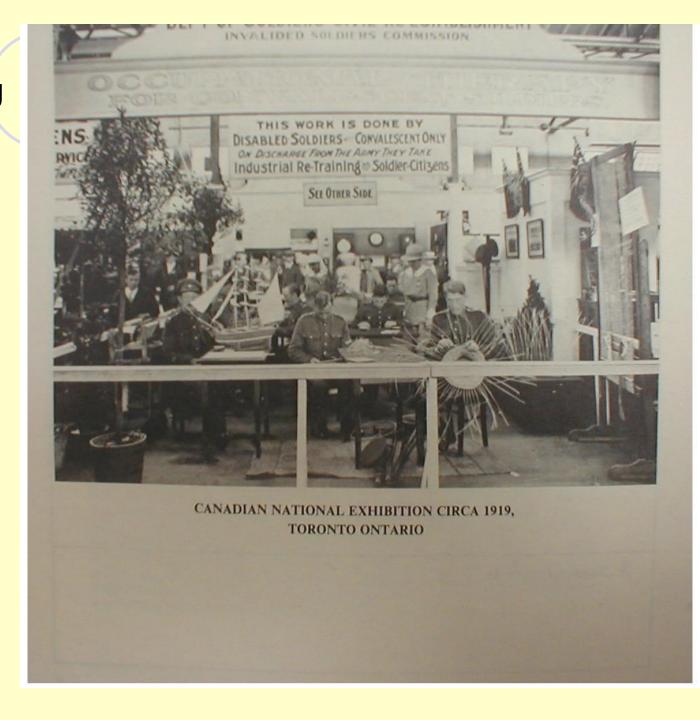
**ENVIRONMENTAL/CONTEXTUAL FACTORS** 

**OCCUPATIONAL PERFORMANCE** 

The Beginning

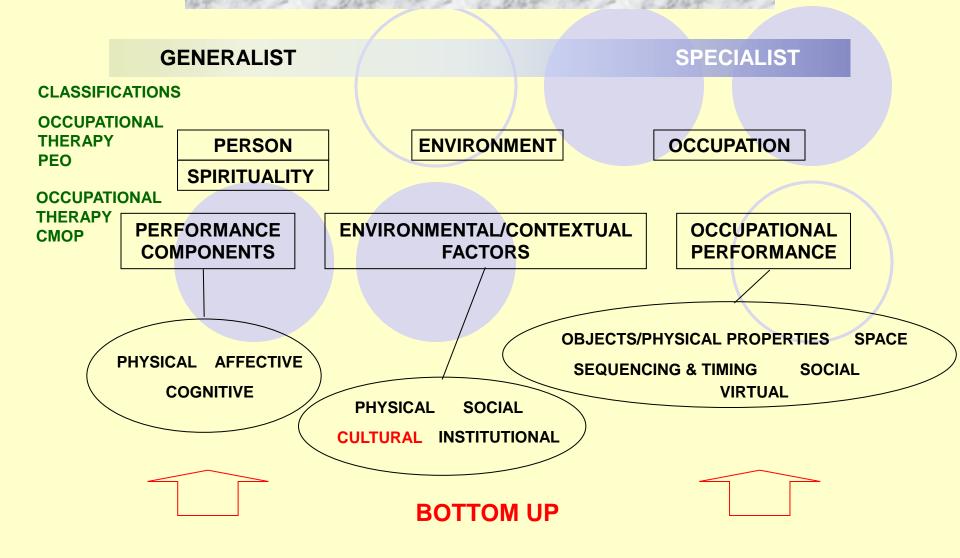
Occupational
Therapy
Profession

In parallel Canada & USA



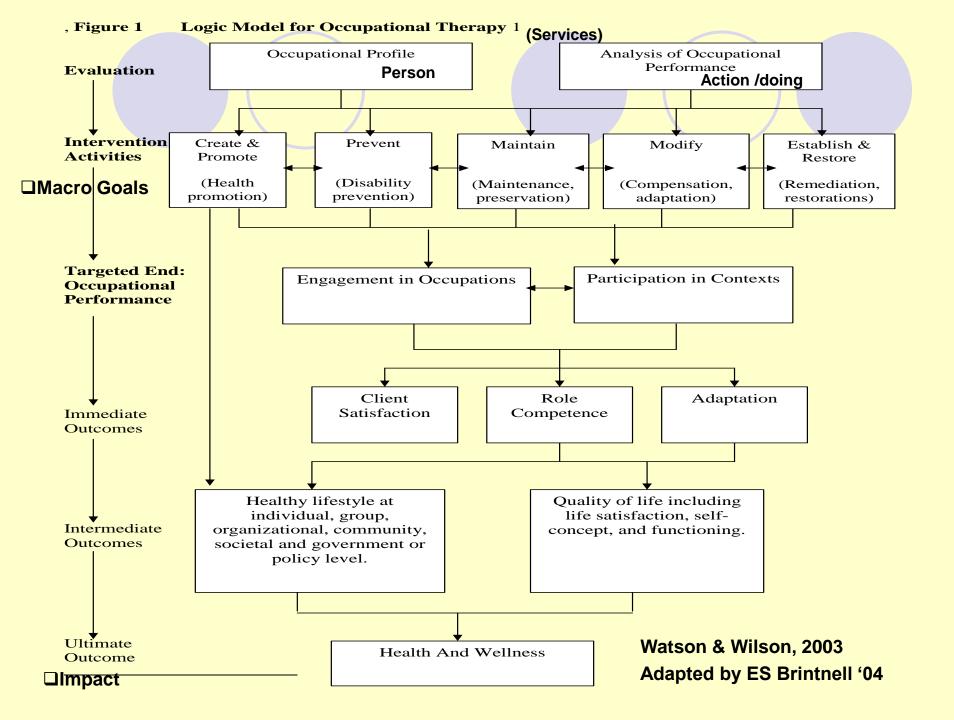
### **OT PRACTICE (SERVICES)**

#### **OT PRACTICE ISSUE BASED**



# Occupational therapy is complex in its service delivery

There is a multilevel analysis going on through on throughout the occupational therapy process



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