



OTIPM: A model for implementing top-down, client-centered, and occupation-based assessment, intervention, and documentation

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Overview

Based on her Eleanor Clarke Slagle Lectureship, Professor Fisher brings together 45 years of experience to present a model for professional reasoning. The Occupational Therapy Intervention Process Model (OTIPM) (Fisher, 2009) is a professional reasoning model that occupational therapists can use to ensure that we adopt an *occupation-centered* (OC) perspective to guide our reasoning as we plan and implement *occupation-based* (OB) and *occupation-focused* (OF) services (Fisher, 2013).

In the OTIPM, the occupational therapy process is depicted as occurring over three global phases, evaluation and goal-setting, intervention, and reevaluation, and each step in the process may be OB, OF, or both (Fisher, 2013). The steps of the occupational therapy process defined in the OTIPM are represented schematically below (see Figure 1).

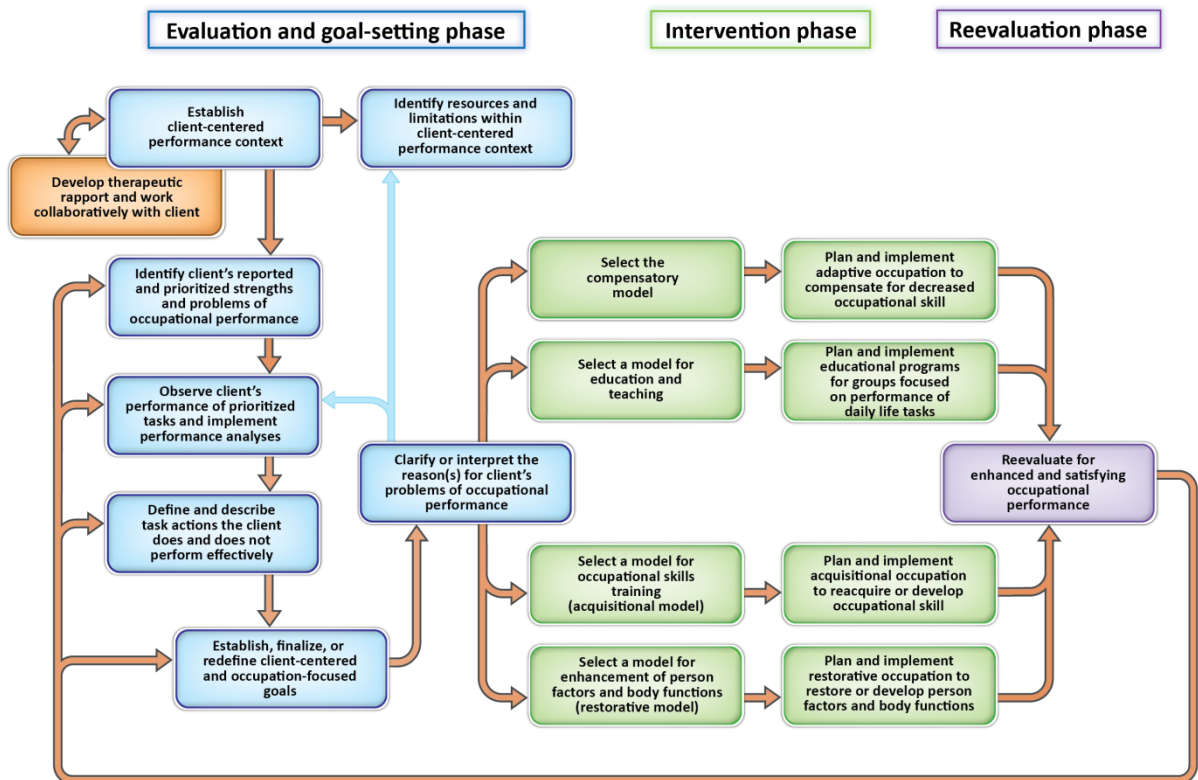


Figure 1. Schematic representation of the Occupational Therapy Intervention Process Model. (Adapted from: Fisher, A. G. [2009]. *Occupational Therapy Intervention Process Model: A model for planning and implementing top-down, client-centered, and occupation-based interventions*. Fort Collins CO: Three Star Press. [Revised June 2013]).

Our clients include *individuals*, *client constellations*, and *client groups* who seek occupational therapy services because they have concerns about occupational performance. Thus, potential clients include patients, students, care or other service providers (e.g., support personnel, teachers, parents), companies (e.g., the administrators and/or the employees), and populations (i.e., people living in communities or other geographic regions). Our clients will be those persons who are experiencing or who are at risk of experiencing challenges with occupational performance in relation to their own disabilities or risk for occupational challenges, or they may experience them in relation to interacting and working with those who have disabilities or risk for occupational challenges.

A major premise of the OTIPM is that focusing our evaluations on the client's quality of and satisfaction with occupational performance, focusing our interventions directly on enhancing or maintaining quality of and satisfaction with occupational performance, and using of occupation as a primary method for both evaluation and intervention all depend on a concurrent commitment to true top-down and client-centered practice. When we embrace these fundamental principles of OB and OF services, occupational therapists will:

- Document measureable and occupation-focused baselines, goals, and outcomes
- Use OB and OF evaluation and intervention methods to enhance the quality and effectiveness of the services they provide
- Advocate for and promote the value of occupational therapy to consumers, third-party payers, and other professionals
- Value of the contributions of occupational therapy to health care and health promotion

Course Description

The OTIPM course is 3 days, and includes both theoretical and practical components with an emphasis on individual and group activities that introduce the occupational therapist to (a) nonstandardized occupation-focused and occupation-based evaluations of quality of a person's occupational performance, including the performance of daily life tasks that involve social interaction, and (b) occupation-focused documentation.

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of a 3-day OTIPM workshop, the participants will understand:

- The occupation-centered professional reasoning process defined in the OTIPM
- Distinctions between restoration, acquisition, and compensation, as well as the distinctions between preparation, rote exercise or practice, simulated occupation, restorative occupation, acquisitional occupation, and adaptive occupation
- Which evaluation and intervention methods that are OB, OF, both OB and OF, and neither OB nor OF.
- How to apply true top-down and OC reasoning in the context of implementing OB and/or OF evaluation and intervention methods, and when documenting a client's OF baseline, goals, and outcomes of occupational therapy services
- How to link other occupational therapy models of practice and evaluation methods into the occupational therapy intervention process