

IN CONFERENCE WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

Presenters

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Title:

Enhancing occupational therapy practice: Reviewing for a peer reviewed journal.

Target Audience:

Occupational Therapists interested in developing and enhancing skills in reviewing for a peer reviewed journal, and who may wish to extend their critical thinking skills in general.

Aim / Purpose:

To develop

- 1. Skills in reading and evaluating a research manuscript submitted for publication**
- 2. Identification of strengths and weaknesses of the content of submissions**
- 3. Increased confidence in using Manuscript Central**
- 4. Greater awareness of the role that the AOTJ plays in the development of the OT profession through the publication of research evidence.**
- 5. Gain an understanding of the AOTJ guidelines for submission**

Discussion:

The goals of AOTJ include producing a high quality peer reviewed journal, promoting research and interdisciplinary communication and publishing evidence for OT practice from occupational therapy research. To achieve these outcomes AOTJ is dependent on submissions from authors, and the contributions made by reviewers of submissions in determining the quality of what appears in the journal. This workshop will consist of identifying the thinking a critical review skills needed to evaluate papers submitted for publication, a review of the manuscript submission requirements for the Australian Occupational Therapy Journal - AOTJ (including manuscript Central), activities to help participants gain or increase skills in critical review, and tips on how to provide constructive feedback when reviewing an article. These activities will be targeted towards participants with limited experience.

Conclusions:

Our professional journal is the window of our profession to the world, and scholarly writing is an important medium to stimulate new thinking on a topic, challenge practice and promote change and the advancement of professional knowledge. This workshop will address these issues by helping to develop skills in reviewing for AOTJ.

Learning Outcomes:

- **Increased skills and confidence in reading and evaluating a research manuscript submitted for publication**
- **An increased understanding of the review process**
- **An opportunity to become a volunteer reviewer to develop reviewing skills further.**
- **An opportunity to gain experience of reviewing a research manuscript.**