

Specialist Section Mental Health



Find out more about joining
the Specialist Section for Mental Health

e-Newsletters • Journals • CPD opportunities • Online resources • Networking • Events • Social media

www.rcot.co.uk/mh

Royal College of
Occupational
Therapists



Specialist Section
Mental Health

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BUILDING ON FIRM FOUNDATIONS

The Royal College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section – Mental Health is a branch of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT). The membership comprises occupational therapy staff and students, educators and researchers who have an interest or are working in mental health. There are close links to service users, carers and associated organisations. It promotes good practice in mental health.

All Specialist Sections are led by a National Executive Committee (NEC) made up of volunteers elected from the membership at the Annual Review Meeting (ARM). Members support fellow members at local and national levels across the UK. All Specialist Section – Mental Health members must also be members of RCOT.

The principle aims of the Specialist Section are interpreted through an annual business plan, which is updated regularly. Some of the key areas of the business plan are:

To support members by:

- Enhancing communication and resource provision for members through a regular newsletter and up to date web page.
- Developing practice resources.
- Improving membership engagement through supporting events and the use of social media.
- Being involved in research and development.
- Organising study events and networking opportunities.

To promote the profession

- Representing on committees and consultations.
- Raising the profile of occupational therapy in mental health, developing links with other Specialist Sections.

Aims of the Specialist Section

- To promote best practice in all areas of mental health.
- To support high and improving standards of practice through research.
- To work as partners with service users and carers.
- To support and encourage learning and development through study events, publications and e-Newsletters.
- To develop knowledge and skills of the workforce.
- To work effectively with partner organisations and professional bodies, in partnership with RCOT.
- To advise and support the development of national agendas.
- To emphasise the importance of educating occupational therapy students about the impact of mental health and the value of recovery.

Membership Benefits

- Access to a national network of occupational therapists working in mental health in a wide variety of areas of expertise and practice.
- Access to Clinical and Regional Fora including; Forensic Forum, Eating Disorders Forum and regional groups in Scotland, Wales, England and Northern Ireland.
- Potential access to funding for research, professional development opportunities and events.
- Advice and guidance when undertaking research within mental health.
- Opportunities to comment on national and local issues, including relevant guidance, policies and legislation linked to mental health.
- Opportunities to be involved in working parties developing clinical guidelines, position statements and other publications relevant to mental health.
- e-Newsletter including features and updates across all sub groups.
- Free or reduced prices for members for annual conference and study events.
- Continual Professional Development and opportunities to develop skills as a member of, the different sub groups, regional groups or National Executive Committee.
- Access to the RCOT Specialist Section Mental Health website pages and social media.
- UK Wide information and resources.

Mental Health Occupational Therapy e-Newsletter

The RCOTSS-Mental Health e-Newsletter is distributed to the membership on a regular basis. It contains links to policies, developments and information updates of interest on a timely basis. It also includes regular features, updates and news from all the Clinical Fora and

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four countries of the UK as well as updates of the Specialist Section business plan and advertisement of Specialist Section events planned throughout the year.

For more information about the Specialist Section – Mental Health please visit our website: rcot.co.uk/mh

Q: How do I join Specialist Section – Mental Health?

A: Please visit the web pages and download our membership form at rcot.co.uk/mh

Q: How long does my membership last?

A: The membership runs from 1st October to 30th September annually.

Q: Who can join?

A: Anyone who is a member of the RCOT.

Q: Can I belong to more than one Specialist Section?

A: Yes, you can belong to as many as you wish.

For further information contact:

Email: enquiries.cotssmh@gmail.com or specialistsectionadmin@rcot.co.uk



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Royal College of Occupational Therapists Limited

The professional body for occupational therapy staff

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