Find out more about joining the Specialist Section for Older People

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

www.rcot.co.uk/op
Specialist Section
Older People

The Royal College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section – Older People is a branch of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT). The membership comprises occupational therapists from a variety of backgrounds including educators, researchers, occupational therapy staff and students who are interested in furthering their knowledge of care, interventions and services for older people. There are close links to service users, carers and associated organisations. It actively supports and promotes new ideas within this scope of practice.

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 – Older People members must also be members of RCOT.

The Specialist Section will assist in meeting professional learning and development needs, as well as enabling the sharing of best practice. Membership provides the opportunity to network with occupational therapists and occupational therapy support workers from across the UK, who share a passion for the care and services of older people.

Aims of the Specialist Section

- To meet professional learning and development needs.
- To enable the sharing of best practice.
- To provide the opportunity to network with occupational therapists and support workers from across the UK.
- To share a passion for the care and services of older people.
- To influence, develop and contribute to local and national policy.
- To support high and improving standards of practice through research.

Clinical Fora

The Specialist Section – Older People covers a wide range of interests. As part of membership, the Clinical Fora have been established to enable members working in the same speciality to network, to provide focused learning opportunities and to support each other. As one of the benefits of Specialist Section membership, members can choose to join one or more of the Clinical Fora for no extra charge.
Acute Care and Emergency Forum (ACE) Clinical Forum is intended for members working in emergency departments and acute care as well as practitioners working in other areas who want to keep informed of current developments within frontline services and acute care. It aims to have a highly interactive forum that reflects best practice and innovation in these challenging clinical areas.

Care Home Clinical Forum is intended for members working in care homes and/or who have an interest in supporting people living and working in care homes. It provides a valuable opportunity to share good practice and experience and a forum for discussion, networking and support.

Dementia Clinical Forum is intended for members who work with people with dementia across the age span. It is open to members working in specialist or non-specialist settings, allowing an opportunity for discussion and networking.

Falls Clinical Forum is intended for members who work with individuals at risk of falling or who have an interest in falls management. The forum aims to share and disseminate good practice in the area of falls prevention and management and engage members in local and national initiatives.

Intermediate Care and Reablement Clinical Forum is intended for members working in rapid response, reablement, home based and bed based intermediate care teams. As well as an opportunity to discuss and share topics with other forum members, there is also the option of participating in the intermediate care e-journal club.

Mental Health Clinical Forum is intended for members working with older people who have a primary diagnosis of functional mental illness. Often this may occur alongside the loss of physical health and other life events such as bereavement or retirement. The forum offers opportunities for discussion and disseminates resources and examples of good practice.

Membership Benefits

- Access to a national network of occupational therapists working with older people in a wide variety of areas of expertise and practice.
- Members can share ideas and support best practice through specialist Clinical Fora.
- Receive three newsletters a year: including articles, book and conference reviews, research development, national developments and reports.
- Attend conferences, learning events and study days dedicated to occupational therapists working with older people.
- Participate in Continuing Professional Education (CPD) opportunities either as a member
of our NEC or support other Specialist Section activities for professional development.

- Access to the Specialist Section research and development award.
- Get involved in opportunities to comment and advise on policy, strategy and guidelines.
- Access to the website for up to date information and resources.

## Raising Standards
As an occupational therapist or occupational therapy support worker with an interest in older people, the Specialist Section aims to meet your professional learning and development needs, as well as enabling you to share best practice in order to improve and raise standards.

## For more information about the Specialist Section – Older People please visit our website: **rcot.co.uk/op**

**Q: How do I join Specialist Section – Older People?**

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

**Q: How long does my membership last?**

**A:** The membership runs for one year from the date of activation of your account.

**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:** ssmembership.administrator@rcot.co.uk or specialistsectionadmin@rcot.co.uk

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