The Royal College of Occupational Therapists’ (RCOT) vision for research is that, within the next decade, a UK-wide culture that embraces engaging in and with research as every occupational therapist’s business will become embedded within the profession.

The top 10 priorities for occupational therapy research in the UK will set the research agenda for occupational therapy in the future and help focus efforts on addressing the unanswered questions that matter most to people accessing and delivering occupational therapy services.

In 2019, RCOT partnered with the James Lind Alliance (JLA) to set up a Priority Setting Partnership. Following the JLA’s well-respected and inclusive methodology, we asked people who access occupational therapy, their carers, occupational therapists and other health and care professionals to identify unanswered questions that research could answer.

In July 2020, the top 10 were agreed by representatives of people with lived experience of accessing and delivering occupational therapy services.

Each priority is an overarching summary question within which there may be more focused research questions. The priorities can be applied to a wide range of conditions, symptoms, interventions, areas and contexts of practice, and across different ages and communities.

RCOT is calling on its members and the wider research community to undertake, participate in or facilitate research to address the top 10 priorities.

Find out more at: rcot.co.uk/top-10