Occupational therapy for people with motor neurone disease (MND)

Please use the accompanying notes in the workbook when completing this Group CPD session
Learning outcomes:

To:

• Develop an understanding of MND: its incidence, prevalence and the four main types
• Critically consider the lived experience of MND and its impact on occupational performance
• Critically explore the occupational therapy process in relation to working with people with MND and their families
• Debate and reflect upon the occupation based contributions that occupational therapists can make, to assist people with MND to live with the condition.
• Critically reflect upon the importance of anticipating the needs of people with MND in advance so that interventions, adaptations and equipment can be implemented in a timely manner
• Debate and discuss the ways that occupational therapists can support people with MND and their families to express choice and have control
Healthtalk online

http://www.healthtalk.org/peoples-experiences/nerves-brain/motor-neurone-disease-mnd/topics

What did you learn from the lived experience of MND?
Explore key learning points from Motor Neurone Disease: a guide for GPs and primary care teams

For example, confirm understanding of:

• Pathology
• Prevalence
• Main types of MND
Role of the occupational therapist in delivering occupation centred practice

**Occupation-centred**

describes an approach where occupation is at the core. It is made up of occupation-focused and occupation-based practice.

**Occupation-focused**

describes practice where information about the person, environment and occupation relates closely with occupational performance.

**Occupation-based**

describes practice where the ‘doing’ of occupation is the main ingredient in assessment, intervention and measure of outcomes.
The role of the occupational therapist

Building on the key points from the COT briefings identify how you would maintain an occupation focus in relation to:

• Assessment
• Intervention
• Outcome Measurement
Discuss with the person the importance of anticipating needs

- What is available locally?
- Make inter-professional links
- Refresh your knowledge of the disabled facilities grant arrangements
- What adaptations and equipment will be required?
- Funding & provision plans for when the person is ready / needs further assistance

The importance of enabling choice and control

Because the pace and manner of acceptance of the diagnosis, prognosis and progress will differ be ready to assist when the person and their carers are ready to accept help.

How can you do this in practice?
End of life care

https://www.cot.co.uk/supporting-practice/evidence-and-resources/


Conclusion

The primary role of the occupational therapist is to enable occupation.

By exploring and offering possible solutions and adapting the environment we are offering the person with MND:

• control and choice
• support to adapt to changing symptoms
• maintenance of their quality of life.
References


Ongoing resources

- MND Association Professional Publications
- MND Association Professionals Forum
- MND Association Shortened Stories
  [http://www.shortenedstories.org/](http://www.shortenedstories.org/)
  Available at: [https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng42](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng42)
  Accessed on 08.06.16
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Please capture your immediate take home points and your future learning needs in your workbook.