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NEUROLOGICAL PRA  
SKELETAL HEALTH WORK  
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## RCOT Specialist Sections

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

[rcot.co.uk/specialistsections](http://rcot.co.uk/specialistsections)

Royal College of  
Occupational  
Therapists



Specialist  
Sections

# Specialist Sections

The Specialist Sections are branches of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists that provide professional direction and leadership for occupational therapists working in specialist areas of practice. Their purpose is to enable members to expand their networks within their specialism, share information and promote good practice.

All Specialist Sections are led by a National Executive Committee (NEC) made up of volunteers elected from the membership at Annual Review Meetings (ARM). The Specialist Sections operate nationally with members supporting fellow members at local and national levels across the UK.

To be a member of a Specialist Section you must be also be a member of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists.

## Children, Young People and Families

### Housing

### Independent Practice

### Mental Health

### Neurological Practice

### Older People

### Oncology and Palliative Care

### People with Learning Disabilities

### Trauma and Musculoskeletal Health

### Work

## The Specialist Sections are there to:

- Raise awareness of occupational therapy and promote the development of skills and knowledge in that specialism
- Promote and facilitate continuing professional development (CPD)
- Promote research opportunities and support the use of evidence to inform practice
- Disseminate relevant information and provide networking opportunities
- Support members new to the practice area
- Function as a resource to provide expertise at national and local levels
- Act as advisors and influencers for and on behalf of the profession and the College.

## Why join a Specialist Section?

- Gain access to a UK-wide network of occupational therapists working in your specialist area
- Benefit from expert knowledge and resources to support you in practice
- Receive updates via newsletters, bulletins, journals and dedicated social media accounts and web pages on the RCOT website
- Take up opportunities for professional development and learning by attending conferences, learning events and study days
- Take advantage of free or reduced Specialist Section membership rates for learning events
- Benefit from grants for research, professional development and events where available
- Receive information and advice from free publications dedicated to your area of practice, including briefings, evidence based guidelines, research and best practice
- Attend Clinical Fora which are dedicated, speciality sub groups providing support, networking opportunities and clinical leadership
- Engage with local or regional groups providing networking opportunities
- Get involved in policy development, practice, strategy, briefings, to develop practice guidelines and leadership skills
- All new members receive a welcome pack on joining a Specialist Section.

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES  
HOUSING INDEPENDENT PRACTICE  
MENTAL HEALTH  
NEUROLOGICAL PRACTICE  
OLDER PEOPLE  
ONCOLOGY AND PALLIATIVE CARE  
PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES TRAUMA AND MUSCULOSKELETAL HEALTH  
WORK CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES  
HOUSING INDEPENDENT PRACTICE  
MENTAL HEALTH

## Who can join a Specialist Section?

All Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT) members can become a member of a Specialist Section.

## How much does it cost?

There is an annual fee to join a Specialist Section. The fees vary.

You can claim tax relief on 75% of your RCOT fees if you are a UK tax payer. Also most Specialist Sections offer a reduced rate for students.

## How do I join?

Each Specialist Section has its own web page on the RCOT website where you can find information on how to join.

Please visit [www.rcot.co.uk/specialistsections](http://www.rcot.co.uk/specialistsections)

Or complete the form attached to this booklet and return to the UK Regional and Specialist Section Manager, Royal College of Occupational Therapists, 106-114 Borough High Street, London, SE1 1LB.

## Can I belong to more than one Specialist Section?

Yes, you can belong to as many Specialist Sections as you wish.

## Where can I find more information?

Each Specialist Section has its own web page on the RCOT website at [www.rcot.co.uk/specialistsections](http://www.rcot.co.uk/specialistsections)

## How do I join RCOT?

For more information on becoming a member of RCOT and to apply visit the website [www.rcot.co.uk](http://www.rcot.co.uk) and contact the membership team at [membership.department@rcot.co.uk](mailto:membership.department@rcot.co.uk) or telephone at 020 7450 2348.



## Children, Young People and Families

Join a national network of members working with children, young people and families and gain access to expert advice. This Specialist Section has a comprehensive network of regional groups offering local support, networking opportunities and information. Members can also join one or all of the Clinical Fora, providing support, networking opportunities and learning around specific areas of practice. These include:

- Acute
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Neonatal and early intervention services
- Physical disabilities
- School based occupational therapy

[rcot.co.uk/cyfp](http://rcot.co.uk/cyfp)

### Twitter

@RCOT\_CYPF

### Facebook

RCOT Children Young  
People & Families (CYPF)

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## Housing

The Specialist Section - Housing supports members interested in housing and the built environment. Members are involved in the design of new build housing, adaptation of existing properties or development of accessible housing registers. They work closely with external organisations and professionals with a similar interest and advocate for improved standards of housing for older and disabled people. There is a comprehensive network of regional groups offering local support, networking opportunities and information. Members receive a regular e-newsletter for the latest news, resources and information.



[rcot.co.uk/housing](http://rcot.co.uk/housing)

### Twitter

@RCOT\_Housing



## Independent Practice

The Specialist Section – Independent Practice is made up of new and established independent occupational therapists, including business owners, sole traders, not-for-profit organisations and contractors. Support and advice is provided on business development and other matters related to running an independent practice. Membership includes a business start-up and welcome pack upon joining. There are a number of learning events, study days and an annual national conference, including 'Look Before You Leap' training for members starting out in independent practice. Individuals have the option of joining the Directory of Independent Practice and the Medico-legal Forum. There is also a growing network of regional groups to provide support and learning opportunities, including webinars for members.

[rcot.co.uk/ip](http://rcot.co.uk/ip)

### Directory

[rcotss-ip.org.uk](http://rcotss-ip.org.uk)

### Twitter

@RCOT\_IP

### Facebook

RCOT Independent Practice

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## Mental Health

The Specialist Section – Mental Health is for members working in mental health services, including forensic, eating disorders, perinatal and the prison services. This branch has regional networks, locally and nationally providing support, learning opportunities and information for their members. They work to develop, shape and influence mental health and well-being policy across the UK. As a member you will receive a regular e-newsletter as well as updates on relevant resources and information. Members have the option of joining one or more of the three Clinical Fora:

- Eating disorders
- Forensic
- Perinatal



[rcot.co.uk/mh](http://rcot.co.uk/mh)

### Twitter

@RCOT\_MH

### Facebook

RCOT Mental Health



## Neurological Practice

Members interested in improving their knowledge and skills of neurological conditions can join the Specialist Section – Neurological Practice. The branch supports members by facilitating awareness of the latest approaches, exchanging ideas, encouraging lifelong learning and research. Regular training opportunities are provided for members to promote the exchange of knowledge, skills and resources.

This Specialist Section has a comprehensive network of regional groups offering local support, training, networking opportunities and information. Members also have the opportunity to join one or all of the Clinical Fora, providing support, networking opportunities and learning around specific areas of practice. These include:

- Brain injury
- Long term conditions
- Stroke

[rcot.co.uk/np](http://rcot.co.uk/np)

**Twitter**

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**Facebook**

RCOTSS Neurological Practice

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## Older People

Membership of Specialist Section – Older People gives you the opportunity to connect and network with people who share the same passion for older peoples' services. Enhance your skills and knowledge while sharing and developing your own expertise and best practice. Members receive a regular e-newsletter as well as the latest updates on relevant resources. Members can also join one of the Clinical Fora, providing support, networking opportunities, webinars and learning around specific areas of practice.

- Acute care and emergency
- Care homes
- Dementia
- Falls
- Intermediate care and reablement
- Mental health and wellbeing



[rcot.co.uk/op](http://rcot.co.uk/op)

**Twitter**

@RCOT\_OP





## Oncology and Palliative Care

The Specialist Section – Oncology and Palliative Care is for members who work with people who have, or are receiving, oncology services, cardiac and respiratory, or palliative care. Members will join a national network of experts throughout the UK and receive support in developing their practice. This branch promotes good practice for people living with HIV, cancer, cardiac and respiratory, and end of life care in a variety of settings, including hospitals, community, social care and the voluntary sector. Membership includes regular study days, learning events, and also the opportunity to join one or all of the Clinical Fora:

- Cardiac and respiratory care
- HIV
- Oncology
- Palliative care and palliative rehabilitation

[rcot.co.uk/opc](http://rcot.co.uk/opc)

**Twitter**  
@RCOT OPC

**Facebook**  
OPC

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## People with Learning Disabilities

This Specialist Section gives you access to a network of occupational therapy professionals working in learning disability services. Membership of this branch enables you to share good practice; exchange knowledge, skills and resources; and be part of local and national developments. The branch works closely with external organisations to develop practice and members benefit by receiving the latest news via regular e-newsletters and information on their web pages. Specialist Section – People with Learning Disabilities has a growing network of regional groups to provide support, learning, relevant events and opportunities for members.



[rcot.co.uk/pld](http://rcot.co.uk/pld)

**Twitter**  
@RCOT\_PLD

**Facebook**  
RCOT People with Learning Disabilities PLD



## Trauma and Musculoskeletal Health

Specialist Section – Trauma and Musculoskeletal Health covers a range of clinical interests related to musculoskeletal health. If you wish to network with members who are interested in trauma, orthopaedics, prosthetic and amputee rehabilitation, critical care, persistent and chronic pain, rheumatology and musculoskeletal health then this is the Specialist Section for you. As part of membership you have access to regional groups and Clinical Fora, which enables members to network and support each other in specific clinical areas. You can join one or more of the following Clinical Fora:

- Critical care
- Pain
- Prosthetic and amputee rehabilitation
- Rheumatology
- Trauma and orthopaedics

Regional groups are held in: Scotland; Wales; Northern Ireland; Northern England and Southern England.

[rcot.co.uk/trauma](http://rcot.co.uk/trauma)

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**Facebook**  
RCOT Specialist  
Section Trauma and  
Musculoskeletal Health

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## Work

The Specialist Section – Work is for those occupational therapy professionals interested in or working in vocational rehabilitation, occupational health and other work related services. Membership provides the opportunity for networking; sharing knowledge, skills and resources; and connecting with external organisations and like-minded people. Members receive a regular e-newsletter with information on the latest developments and resources. This growing area of practice is supported by members of this Specialist Section who work with RCOT and external organisations to lobby and promote occupational therapy in the workplace. The branch's network of regional groups provide support, learning events, webinars and opportunities for its members.



[rcot.co.uk/work](http://rcot.co.uk/work)

**Twitter**  
@RCOT\_Work

**Facebook**  
RCOT Work

# Specialist Sections

**For further information on joining a Specialist Section, please tick the relevant boxes and complete the form below. Detach the form and return to:**

RCOT Specialist Section Administrator  
Royal College of Occupational Therapists  
106-114 Borough High Street, London, SE1 1LB

- CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES
- HOUSING
- INDEPENDENT PRACTICE
- MENTAL HEALTH
- NEUROLOGICAL PRACTICE
- OLDER PEOPLE
- ONCOLOGY AND PALLIATIVE CARE
- PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES
- TRAUMA AND MUSCULOSKELETAL HEALTH
- WORK

Please complete all the details under 'About you' in **BLOCK CAPITALS**

## About you

Family name/Surname: \_\_\_\_\_ First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Male

Female

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation name: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Correspondence address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact tel. no: \_\_\_\_\_

RCOT no: \_\_\_\_\_



# CHILDREN YOUNG PEOP LTH INDEPENDEN ONCOLOGY AND PALLI OLDER PEOP TRAUMA AND MUSCULOS PEOPLE WITH LEARNING

[rcot.co.uk/specialistsections](http://rcot.co.uk/specialistsections)

For more information please contact:

**UK Regional and Specialist Sections Manager**

Royal College of Occupational Therapists

106-114 Borough High Street

London, SE1 1LB

Tel: 020 7450 2336

Email: [specialistsectionadmin@rcot.co.uk](mailto:specialistsectionadmin@rcot.co.uk)

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[rcot.co.uk/specialistsections](http://rcot.co.uk/specialistsections)

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