

BACKGROUND

Occupation-centered clinical practice has been increasingly important in occupational therapy. Despite this professional trend, there tends to be a lack of functional, occupation-centered assessments and interventions in a range of clinical settings^{1,2,3,4} with occupation-based assessments for only limited areas of occupation.⁵ One problem that may be causing this research-practice gap is lack of understanding of the intricacies of occupation-centered practice.⁶

The Occupation-Centered Intervention Assessment (OCIA) is a tool for occupational therapy students, educators, and practitioners to better understand and implement occupation-centered clinical practice. The OCIA is a guide for self-reflection on one's own clinical practice.⁷ If practitioners are better able to understand the philosophy and theory behind occupation-centered practice through use of the OCIA, clinical use and research of occupation-centered interventions may improve.⁵

PURPOSE

To develop the Occupation-Centered Intervention Assessment Instruction Manual to provide an accessible resource for students, educators, and practitioners to improve occupation-centered intervention implementation.

EXAMPLE OF REFLECTION WITHIN THE OCIA

Continuum	Reflection
Case:	A practitioner in an inpatient rehabilitation facility is planning an intervention for her client to improve upper extremity AROM after surgery by completing a simple cooking task. The practitioner uses the OCIA to guide the following reflections:
Person	<i>Does the client get the opportunity to collaborate and discuss their goals regarding the intervention?</i>
Context	<i>Is the client performing in a natural setting? What can be modified to make the context/environment more natural?</i>
Occupation	<i>Is the client participating in an occupation? Are there ways to incorporate daily activities into current treatment?</i>

CLINICAL BOTTOM LINE

The OCIA has the potential to bridge the research-practice gap that exists pertaining to occupation-centered practice by explicitly describing the theory and philosophy behind the foundational concept and providing immediate strategies to implement improved clinical practice to meet contemporary practice standards. Strong psychometric testing, intentional research dissemination, and instructional manual publication make the OCIA an accessible, reliable reflection tool for occupational therapy students, educators, and practitioners.

ASSESSMENT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

After the conception of the OCIA, the following procedure was followed to develop the assessment:

Psychometric Testing

- Good interrater reliability in adult physical rehabilitation using a methodological approach.⁸
- Good internal validity in various settings using a Rasch model of measurement.⁹
- Fair clinical utility and good validity in mental health settings using a theoretical thematic approach.¹⁰
- Good utility in Level I fieldwork settings using a post-test survey approach.¹¹
- Utility, validity, adequate interrater reliability in skilled nursing facilities using a mixed-methods approach.⁷
- Good utility in clinical and fieldwork settings in Alaska using sequential mixed-methods approach.¹²

Dissemination of Research

- State OT conferences
- National OT conference
- Academic journal publication

Manualization

- Rich theoretical description
- Clinical scenarios
- Visual enhancement with photos and schematics

Manual Publication

- Interview content area experts
- Explore routes of publication
- Establish contract with desired publisher

OUTCOME

The development and publication of the OCIA Instruction Manual will lead to the following outcomes:

Improved Occupation-Centered Practice

- Clear description of theoretical basis
- Strategies to immediately implement occupation-centered practice
- Improved professional communication and vernacular¹³

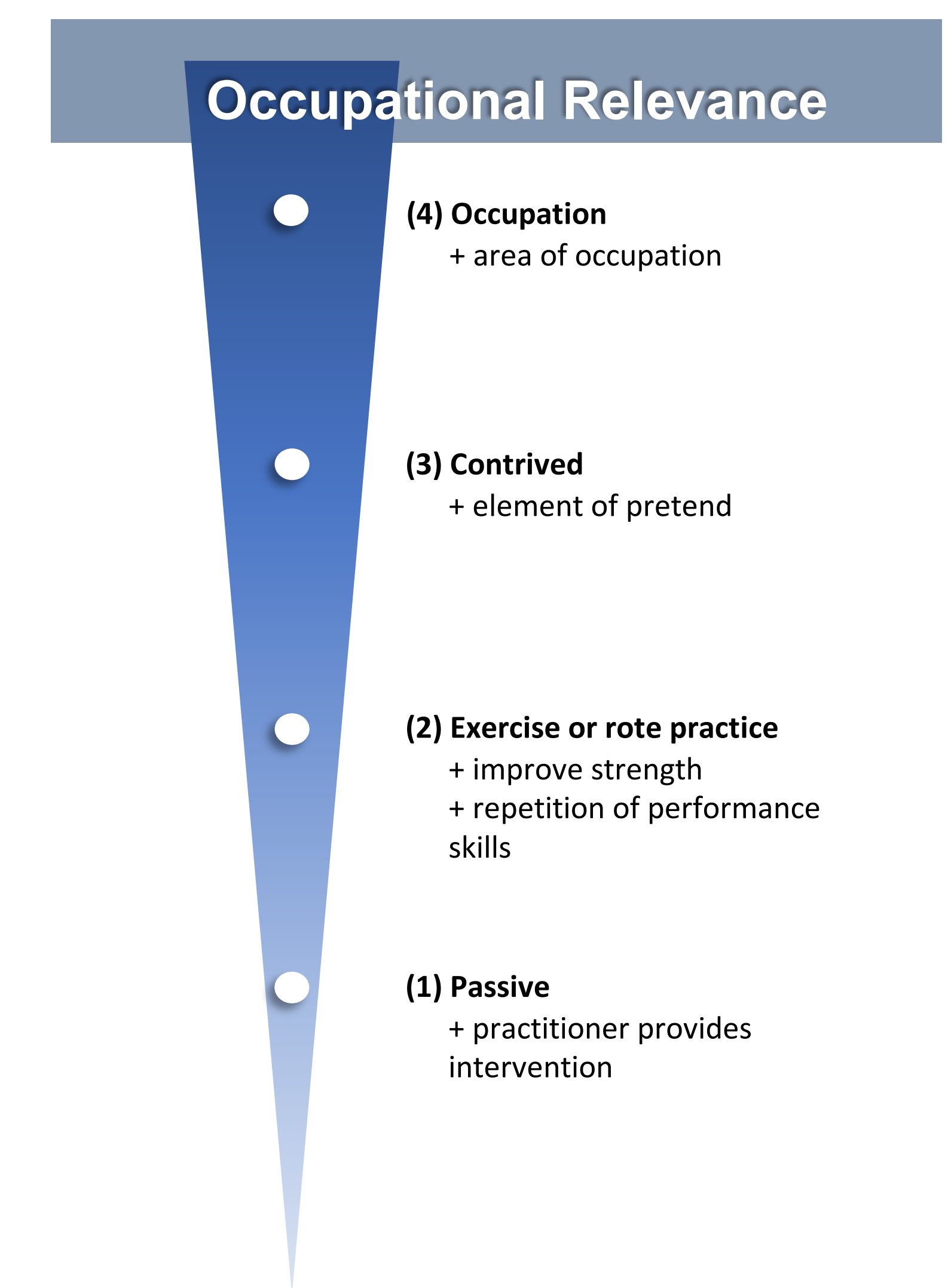
Increased Dissemination of OCIA Research

- Presented at NOTA and OTAC
 - Virtual presentation for AOTA conference
- ### Increased Practitioner Accessibility to OCIA
- Publication contract with AOTA Press is being negotiated

Limitations

- Cost for users
- Generalizability - range of psychometric testing in all clinical settings

Figure 1. Occupational Relevance Continuum



REFERENCES

References available upon request.