

Editorial

Dear Readers,

We are excited to have our first issue published for open access this year! The journal's mission is to provide an evidence-based resource that is current and representative of occupational therapy unique role in acute care. We are fortunate to have an expert review board that is passionate about occupational therapy. The reviewers have a wealth of knowledge and experience working in acute care within several specialty areas specific to intensive care, lymphedema, dysphagia, hand therapy, seating and positioning, wound care, and acute care education.

As co-founders and editors, we hope this journal sparks occupational therapy practitioners to be an active participant in conducting and using evidence in their everyday practice within acute care. As occupational therapists in acute care, we believe that there is need to measure, validate, and justify our services to be responsive to changing healthcare initiatives and ultimately to ensure our patients return to meaningful occupations after an acute injury or illness. We value the work of acute care clinicians and fellow health care stakeholders that work alongside occupational therapists. We hope this journal is an outlet to share and promote occupational services and the power of occupation during acute illness or surgery.

To start our inaugural issue – this issue highlights a unique case study involving a collaborative team that included occupational therapy, physical therapy, nursing, and cardiovascular surgeons working to help promote independence with a patient that was implanted with a Total Artificial Heart (TAH) prior to heart transplant. The article demonstrates how participation in meaningful occupation and mobility during his acute hospitalization improved his recovery prior to his heart transplant.

In moving forward, we hope that occupational therapy practitioners around the world consider submitting their research endeavors to help support the journal. We thank all of our readers and followers for supporting this evidence-based resource and look forward to providing an ongoing outlet for practitioners to promote their work in the practice area of acute care. We invite all occupational therapy practitioners to be an active reader, promoter, and investigator for this journal. Thank you!

Best regards,

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