

Female Occupational Therapists in Bangladesh: Challenges in Clinical Practice

By

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ABSTRACT

Title: Female Occupational Therapists in Bangladesh: Challenges in Clinical Practice.

General objective: The aim of the study is to explore the challenges among female occupational therapists, facing clinical practice in Bangladesh.

Specific Objectives:

- To explore the physical challenges during clinical practice
- To identify administrative challenges during clinical practice
- To determine the personal challenges during clinical practice
- To explore professional challenges during clinical practice
- To identify cultural challenges during clinical practice
- To determine the individual coping mechanisms for overcoming the challenges.

Study design: Qualitative method was used in this research.

Sampling: Purposive sampling was used.

Setting: Participants were selected from different non-government organizations located in Dhaka city.

Materials used for data collection: A set of semi – structured questionnaire, voice recorder and consent form

Result: In Bangladesh female occupational therapists have to face many challenges to practice as an occupational therapist especially, during clinical practice. By the study explored female occupational therapists facing challenges during clinical practice in Bangladesh.

The women are facing problems in handling heavy weight patients, because of less strength and no breaks in between two sessions. There is a lack of awareness about occupational therapy that family members do not take it positive. Another typical problem for female occupational therapists is to have close contact with male patients. Few patients' carer do not like female therapists to treat their male patients. Besides these challenges they use various strategies to overcome these challenges. They discuss with

occupational therapy that family members do not take is positive. Another typical problem for female occupational therapists is to have close contact with male patients. Few patients' carer do not like female therapists to treat their male patients. Besides these challenges they use various strategies to overcome these challenges. They discuss with their supervisor and try to find help from male colleagues and from assistant occupational therapists to compromise the situations.

By the study raised some important and valuable suggestions such as give the break time between two sessions, give six patients instead of eight patients per day, need frequently an arranged training, meeting and need linkage with educational side to make competent and comfortable environment of clinical practice for the female occupational therapists in Bangladesh.

Key words: Clinical setting, challenges, clinical practice, female occupational therapist/ occupational therapy professionals.