**Occupational therapy clinical report writing in South Africa – factors influencing current practice**

**Multiple choice questions**

Red – correct answers

1 Internationally clinical, legal and ethical issues which impact in occupational therapy report writing include reports which

1. are incomplete and inadequate documentation
2. are always complete and comprehensible
3. fail to demonstrate the effectiveness of the service provided
4. don’t include the terminology and language used to communicate the philosophy and values of the profession.
5. best suit various recipients

2 Report writing or record keeping

1. is not an essential component of clinical practice
2. is described as a chronological written record of all that has happened to the patient or healthcare user during any intervention process.
3. aims to ensure that assessment outcomes and continuity of care is reported efficiently between various professionals11. In addition to being a chronological record of care, documentation
4. add nothing to patient care
5. is legal proof of assessment and intervention.

A legal requirement concerning report writing for many health professions

1. is prescribed by health professions regulatory bodies
2. do not protect the clinician
3. indicates that every patient has the right to have sufficient evidence of their care process documented
4. requires that all records to be used for research
5. ensures the safety of the patient

4 Providing reports which are appropriate for other professionals and recipients of occupational therapy services

1. is not a concern of the occupational therapy profession
2. does not support evidence for the efficacy of the profession1
3. is not ameans of marketing the profession
4. present a challenge and both novice and experienced clinicians have been found to have difficulties with report writing3.
5. should consider the recipients ability in understanding professional reports.

5 International studies have highlighted a lack of professional identity in occupational therapy, impacting how occupational therapists write reports which results

1. in a lack of clarity in terms of assessment and intervention goals
2. a lack of understanding of the profession’s role and scope
3. reports not only reflecting presence of illness and remediating impairment
4. poor reporting on than activity and participation, which is key to occupational therapy.
5. Always demonstrating the unique role of occupational therapy

6 To ensure trustworthiness of the findings in this study

1. all data was analysed quantitatively
2. the principle of data saturation was applied during the data collection process
3. field notes and a reflective journal were completed after each focus group meeting.
4. Member checking was used with the participants
5. conventional inductive content analysis using peer review of codes was undertaken

7 On the issue of how to handle with sensitive information within a written report

1. there was some consensus that practitioners have the right to withhold certain information. The withholding of information,
2. brought up a moral conflict since omission can impact the autonomy of the patient
3. it was agreed this should always be included
4. participants seem unaware of existing professional practice guidelines and legislation
5. omitting information to prevent in the unnecessary loss of a job or stigma was considered justified

8 Occupational therapists should keep themselves informed about and adhere to legislation

1. that entrenched the individual’s right to give consent before their information is disseminated
2. that does not support the confidentiality of records
3. supporting the role of the therapist as a professional who is the caretaker of and controls access to patient records
4. that supports easy access to patient records by third parties
5. on the rights of corporate and funding bodies, such as medical funders who request an occupational therapy report

9 Ethical concerns around the costs of reports include

1. that patients can’t afford reports
2. the perception that corporate and funding bodies make report writing more expensive
3. the lack of funding to pay for reports
4. the perception that professional report may then be seen as a commodity rather than a reflection of the patients care pathway
5. that therapists rarely charge for report writing

10 Occupational therapists documenting their practice in medical terms in order to communicate with audiences

1. fear they will not be taken seriously if the use occupational therapy terminology
2. appear to exhibit a professional identity dilemma, which affect report writing
3. are uncertain both of what to include in their reports and how their views on occupational performance will be received
4. do this to allow reports to be understood by a wide audience, ranging from other health care professionals, caregivers, corporate/provincial bodies and funders
5. use templates for all reports