# Early Childhood Development: the Disability Policy and its implications for occupational therapists

# MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Correct answers indicated in red

1. The South African government has ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and therefore has an obligation to
   1. Ensure that local policy is developed to reflect the contents of the Convention
   2. Close all special schools
   3. Replace all the laws of the country that relate to persons with disabilities
   4. Employ lawyers to investigate if the rights of persons with disabilities are being violated
   5. Provide regular reports on its implementation to the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
2. The White Paper on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
   1. States how much parents of children with disabilities will be paid through social grants
   2. Reflects government’s vision for adults and children with disabilities in the country
   3. Provides details on budgets that must be spent on services for persons with disabilities
   4. Gives an overview of the current situation of adults and children with disabilities in the country
   5. Is to be implemented only by the Department of Social Development
3. Elements of nurturing care required by all young children are:
   1. Good nutrition
   2. Sufficient number of toys
   3. Warm clothing
   4. Safety and security
   5. Stimulation for early learning
4. In the Disability Policy, inclusion is regarded as a universal human right. This embraces a number of different elements, which include
   1. Treating all children in exactly the same way
   2. Embracing diversity irrespective of differences such as race, gender or disability
   3. Focusing on geographic re-location of children into different environments
   4. Focusing on enrolment and attendance of children at ECD centres or schools
   5. Fostering a sense of belonging
5. Occupational therapists have particular roles to play in promoting inclusion within ECD services. These include:
   1. Assessing children to decide if they quality for a social grant
   2. Advising parents that children with disabilities should educated only in special schools
   3. Building ramps into buildings
   4. Identifying and addressing a range of barriers that may be contributing to the exclusion of young children with disabilities from ECD services
   5. No role, as occupational therapists deal only with individual children and not in relation to ECD services.
6. The benefits of ECD for children with disabilities
   1. Are unlikely to occur as these children start out life with such disadvantage and this cannot change
   2. Are dependent on parents, who are often not in a position to support their children
   3. Are confirmed in the literature viz. that interventions made during this period have the greatest impact on those who are most disadvantaged
   4. Require too much time and money and will never be realized
   5. Are a way of realising children’s rights during early childhood and strengthening the social and economic foundation of society
7. The White Paper on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities provide several policy directives for ECD, and include the following
8. Equitable access to services
9. Increasing the amount of social grants
10. Disability specific intervention and support
11. Referral and tracking system
12. Providing sufficient toys for children with disabilities
13. The Policy indicates that there are several components to a tracking system for children with disabilities, and these include:
    1. Use of different forms which must be completed by clinic staff
    2. Computerised systems
    3. Referral
    4. Assessment
    5. Information to service providers
14. The Road to Health Booklet is an important means of supporting young children with disabilities because
    1. It contains a record of their immunizations
    2. It is required by schools when the child enters Grade R.
    3. It contains a tool with which their developmental milestones can be monitored
    4. It contains a record of their nutritional status
    5. It contains information about how parents can stimulate early learning of their children
15. Occupational therapists can contribute to strengthening referral systems for young children with disabilities through
    1. membership of the OT Association of South Africa
    2. taking cognizance of the components of nurturing care required by all young children as part of their practice
    3. having knowledge of local resources and partners in order to make referrals when necessary
    4. developing their own Directories of occupational therapy services
    5. referring children (up) to specialist hospitals only and not (down) to community health workers