

Addressing Biblical Spirituality in Client-Centered Care

Program Description:

Spirituality is often at the crux of the universal human experience, particularly as an important contributor to health, quality of life, and well-being. (Pham, Sarnicola, Villasenor, and Vu, 2020). In an influential study that explored the beliefs and practices of five hundred occupational therapists regarding spirituality, Engquist, Short-Degraff, Gliner, and Oltjenbruns (1997) found that 84% of the occupational therapists in the study agreed that spirituality was very important to health and rehabilitation and 91% agreed that clients' spirituality might influence rehabilitation potential. However, only 37% of participants felt that addressing spirituality was within the scope of the occupational therapy profession (Engquist et al., 1997). Due to the nature of occupational therapy's holistic approach to healthcare, occupational therapy (OT) practitioners are well suited to address the topic of spirituality within client care. However, evidence suggests many practitioners feel discomfort or lack of knowledge or awareness of this subject. (Pham, Sarnicola, Villasenor, and Vu, 2020)

Applying therapeutic interventions that are spiritually based activity may successfully address spirituality in the scope of practice of occupational therapy. Implementing this may successfully address spirituality in healing, wellness, comfort, and health. Blending therapeutic interventions and spiritually based activity may allow occupational therapists to address spirituality in their practice and client-centered care.

In the last decade, there is increasing discussion to address a person's spirituality when providing healthcare interventions. Literature discusses common interventions, what should be avoided, and barriers. However, most occupational therapists do not feel prepared to address spirituality in their practice.

Learning Objectives:

1. Select appropriate assessments to use in client centered care to address spirituality.
2. Identify common interventions, what should be avoided, and prevalent barriers when addressing an individual's spirituality during client centered care.
3. List two approaches when addressing spirituality with clients

Program Schedule:

30 minutes: Assessment of Spirituality in Client-Centered Care

30 minutes: Intervention Addressing Spirituality in Client Centered Care

30 minutes: Intervention Addressing Biblical Spirituality in Client-Centered Care