UW-L Occupational Therapy Program
Evidence Based Practice Research Presentations

December 4, 2014
1. Find and understand existing research about an intervention (CATs)

2. Select and use participation outcome measures (outcome measure critique)
Critically Acclaimed Topics (CATs)

- Systematic search of research literature about an intervention
- Critique the level and rigor of research
- Synthesis of research findings to answer a specific clinical question:
Clinical Question: PICO

Is the intervention effective for a particular population compared with another intervention to produce a specific outcome.

- Population
- Intervention
- Comparison
- Expected Outcome
Levels of Evidence (the higher the level the stronger the evidence)
Rigor of Evidence (how well was research conducted?)

- Internal Validity of Research Critiqued
- Different Critique forms for each level of evidence
  - Example: PEDro for randomized control trials, SCED for single case study, etc.
- Rigorous research eliminates reasons other than the intervention for the results obtained.
Research Findings Synthesized

- Adjectives used to describe evidence for PICO question:
  - Strong, Moderate, Limited, Consensus, Conflicting, Emerging, No Evidence

- Adjective used results from level of research located and rigor of that research

- Higher levels of evidence from rigorously conducted studies result in a more definitive answer to PICO question.
Select and Critique Outcome Measure

World Health Organization International Classification of Function (ICF)
Definitions

- **Body Structure/Body Functions**
  - Physiological function of body systems or anatomical parts such as organs, limbs, brain

- **Activities**
  - The capacity to perform a task or action such as ADL, household management, climbing stairs, etc.

- **Participation**
  - Individuals actual doing /involvement in life situations
Examples of Participation Activities

- Home management
- Education
- Work
- Recreation
- Leisure
- Religious/Spiritual
- Civic Life
- Parenting
- Child Care
- Community Activities
Key Features of Participation Outcome Measures

- Short and Easy to Give
- Measures Areas Relevant for Population
- Good Psychometrics
Outcome Measure Terms

- **MDC**: Minimal Detectible Change
  - Minimum number of points the patient must change from beginning to end of therapy to say that the change is bigger than the error associated with the test.

- **MDIC**: Minimal Clinical Important Difference
  - Minimum number of points of change in which the patient and the therapist notice that the change the patient is making is important.