

Editorial

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In Europe, the number of occupational therapists has increased significantly since the beginning of the 21st century. In order to face public health challenges, mostly linked to the ageing of the population, European governments are supporting the development of occupational therapy. The demand for occupational therapy has been increasing exponentially within the last years. Faced with the rapid evolution of practice contexts and evidence, it seems essential to support occupational therapists in their daily practice, whether they are practitioners, students, teachers, researchers...

In this context, the number of training courses has increased, particularly in connection with universities, according to the Bologna agreements in 1999. Most of the programs offered today have demonstrated a willingness to integrate current issues through rigorous and high-quality education that meets the standards of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists. Encouraged by the implementation of the Bachelor-Master-Doctorate system, many occupational therapists have continued their studies at Master and Doctorate levels. Initially affiliated with disciplines ancillary to occupational therapy, the creation of Master's and Doctoral programs specific to occupational therapy and occupational sciences has helped to establish

the importance of occupational sciences as a discipline. The involvement of occupational therapists in European research projects is nowadays increasing at different levels. Consequently, occupational therapists are required to disseminate the results of the projects in which they are involved, in a European or even international context. Access to this profession-specific evidence allows knowledge to be integrated into clinical practice, but also enables decision-makers and funders to recognize the effectiveness and relevance of the profession to the general public.

Over the past few decades, the dissemination of occupational therapy evidence has grown considerably at the international level. Occupational therapy and occupational science journals have been created to disseminate research findings, allowing clinicians to provide quality treatment that evolves with scientific advances. Today, these journals are mainly hosted in Anglo-Saxon countries and their access is not free. At the same time, we are aware of the existence of two French-speaking journal that publishes scientific articles in French (*RFRE, ergOTHérapies*).

This is why the *French Journal of Occupational Therapy (FJOT)* was created, wishing to facilitate the communication of the latest research results, particularly in the European context. This journal is

supported by the French National Association of Occupational Therapists (ANFE), which recognizes the development of research and the accessibility of these results as a major current issue for occupational therapy in Europe. It is addressed to occupational therapists and health professionals with interests in the occupational, medical, psychological, social, economic, cultural and technical aspects of occupational therapy and rehabilitation. Its aim is to encourage the development of occupational therapy theory and practice to support effective intervention.

All articles will be open access, with no charge to the authors, thus promoting accessibility and transfer of knowledge into practice. It seems that the academic activities of European occupational therapists have developed to the point of being able to communicate about it in a scientific journal, offering 2 issues per year. By addressing particularly professionals and researchers in European countries but also worldwide, we hope that the continuous and rapid publication of ideas and knowledge produced largely in Europe will also be

useful to practitioners in other parts of the world. Articles will be published, at the author's choice, in English or French. The *FJOT* is a European and also an international sharing place where access to knowledge will be accessible to the greatest number of people.

The editorial board adopts a philosophy that is in line with the current movement in health sciences, rehabilitation sciences and social sciences, relying on both quantitative and qualitative methodologies. *FJOT* publishes original scientific articles (N-1 trials, randomized controlled trials [RCT], qualitative studies, mix-methods...), literature reviews (scoping reviews, systematic reviews or meta-analyses), short articles, editorials. Narrative reviews, case studies, opinion articles, testimonials or summary sheets (reading, methodology) are not accepted.

We are honored to start this new journal and invite you all to join us in this adventure by submitting articles for publication.