



The Mental Health Occupational Therapist is registered with the Occupational Therapy Board of New Zealand (Kaihaumanu Turoro o Aotearoa) and has relevant Mental Health training and experience.

Core responsibility of the Occupational Therapist:

- Works within the multi-disciplinary team, contributing an Occupational Therapy perspective to case management and treatment planning, based on an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the impact of cognitive and psychological deficits have on an individual's ability to engage in purposeful activity.
- Facilitates and enables occupations for people through engaging their needs, preferences and capacities in the context of their environment to optimise ability and functional independence.
- Uses meaningful occupations to achieve maintain or enhance performance components, skills, habits and roles of client.
- Selects, analyses, structures, synthesises, adapts and grades activities/occupations to achieve client's goals.
- Uses a range of appropriate assessment techniques as a base for intervention.
- Adapts and prescribes occupations, techniques and equipment relevant to client's needs and evaluate outcomes.
- Acts and justifies actions, in compliance with ethical, legal, professional and safety requirements, in accordance with Code of Ethics for Occupational Therapy in New Zealand (2004), HPCA Act (2003) and all relevant legislation.
- Provides a service that takes into account the socio - cultural values of clients.
- Uses a range of communication skills to establish and maintain effectual therapeutic and working relationships.
- Seeks and uses opportunities to continually develop professional knowledge and practice.
- Manages environment to contribute positively to client's experience and their ability to participate and ensure effective use of resources.
- Manages performance and monitors personal resources, to ensure performance is professional, collaborative and supportive of service and team goals and colleagues.
- Engages in clinical supervision, training and professional development, including an awareness of current literature and research.
- Adheres to the principles and guidelines laid down by the Occupational Therapist Board.

Occupational therapy practice is evidence-based and undertaken in accordance with prescribed professional competencies and code of conduct.