

ADVANCING REHABILITATION SERVICES IN OUR REGION



The ultimate goal of Occupational Therapy is to promote living independent, productive and satisfying lives.



Occupational Therapy REHABILITATION SERVICES

Occupational Therapy practitioners can identify and address barriers between a patient's abilities and demands of their daily lives at home and at work, thereby promoting a healthier lifestyle. Occupational Therapists use an occupation-based and client-centered approach that identifies the participation needs of patients.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTITIONERS:

- Perform assessments for health risks related to potential falls, safety in independent living and cognitive/ memory screens in older adults.
- Evaluate children for gross and fine motor deficits, sensory processing or adaptive behavior differences which may result in developmental delays.
- Teach strategies to incorporate healthy habits and routines into daily activities for clients of all ages and abilities.
- Identify solutions to personal and environmental barriers limiting clients from engaging in healthy activities.
- Educate about the importance of relaxation and rest to achieve balance between work and leisure; teach relaxation techniques.
- Provide skills training in areas such as socialization, care giving, parenting, time management, stress management, etc.

Services:

- Therapeutic activity
- Orthotics design, fabrication, fitting and training
- Training in activities of daily living
- Training for post-surgery/post-injury safety
- Work conditioning or work hardening
- Mirror therapy
- Therapeutic exercise
- Joint protection and/or energy modification
- Scar management
- Pain management
- Sensory re-education
- Upper extremity rehabilitation

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From a practical perspective, Occupational Therapy practitioners working in the area of upper-extremity rehabilitation which may include:

- Design and fabrication of selected orthoses for post-surgical, post-injury, or long-term use
- Application of physical agent modalities
- Ergonomic principles
- Diagnostic and post-surgical protocols
- Wound care
- Manual therapy
- Biofeedback techniques
- Taping techniques
- Compression therapy



The following are examples of conditions and injuries of the upper extremity (e.g. hand, wrist, elbow, shoulder girdle, rotator cuff) that are treated by Occupational Therapy practitioners.

- Fractures
- Amputations
- Arthritis and rheumatic diseases
- Congenital anomalies
- Crush injuries or trauma
- Cumulative trauma
- Dislocations and subluxations
- Ligament injury and instability
- Muscle strain, tears, and avulsions
- Tendon injuries and conditions (e.g. lacerations, tendonitis, ruptures)
- Nerve injuries and conditions (e.g. Neuropathies, palsies, nerve repairs)
- Pain (e.g. Complex Regional Pain Syndrome, Fibromyalgia)
- Replantation and re vascularization
- Wounds and scars
- Thermal and electrical injuries
- Neuromuscular pathologies
- Traumatic brain injuries

MEET OUR STAFF



Kelly Brucato, MS, OTR/L, received her Master's degree in Occupational Therapy from D'Youville College in 2011. She began her career in the school setting as a pediatric therapist, but upon moving back to the area in 2012, she joined the OGH outpatient team. Kelly enjoys working with a variety of diagnoses while having a special interest in orthopedic injuries, neurological disorders, and post-surgical patients. Outside of work, she also enjoys attending local sporting events, spending time with her dogs, and kayaking.



Aimee Faulkner, OTA graduated with an Associate of Arts degree in Applied Science for Occupational Therapy Assistant from JCC in 2003. She began working at OGH in 2004 where she has treated patients in a variety of settings. She has experience with inpatients, outpatients, sub-acute patients and has worked for our contract services at Total Senior Care and the Olean City School System. Her clinical interests include splinting and orthopedic injuries as well as helping post CVA and TBI patients return to independence.

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