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A comprehensive approach for assistive technology assessment and intervention across the lifespan with diverse populations

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The role of occupational therapy is to improve quality of life, health, and well-being through promoting engagement in meaningful occupations. Occupational therapists working individually or as a part of an interdisciplinary team can help improve an individual's functional performance and participation with assistive technology (AT). The learning objectives for this 1.5-hour workshop are as follows: 1) describe the distinct value and role of occupational therapy in an interdisciplinary team for AT, 2) identify key considerations and strategies for assessment and intervention related to AT across the lifespan, and 3) apply a comprehensive framework for assistive technology assessment and intervention to practical case studies across the lifespan with diverse populations.

A comprehensive framework will be presented for key considerations and strategies related to holistic assessment and intervention approaches for AT. The role of occupational therapy as an instrumental part of an interdisciplinary team for AT assessment and intervention will be described. Additionally, the distinct value of occupational therapy will be defined with regards to assessment and intervention approaches related to AT for access and lifestyle integration. Interactive instruction, multi-media handouts and resources, and group case-based learning opportunities will be used throughout this workshop. A maximum of 100 participants is recommended to allow for participatory learning opportunities. After completion of this workshop, participants will be able to apply a comprehensive framework for assistive technology assessment and intervention with clients from diverse populations across the lifespan.