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## Exploring the Practice Process of Canadian Occupational Therapists Engaged in Community Centred Practice

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**Rationale:** Community-centred practice focuses on working with the community to identify issues and concerns and develop solutions to address the community's needs. Little research has focused on the application of the Canadian Practice Process Framework (CPPF) to occupational therapists' work with communities.

**Objectives:** To describe Canadian occupational therapists' community-centred practice process. **Methods:** Using qualitative description, occupational therapists in Canada with at least one year experience in community-centred practice were invited to participate in an initial interview and follow-up focus group. Thematic analysis was used to analyze the data.

**Results:** Twelve occupational therapists from across Canada who engaged in community-centred practice participated in the study. Although elements of the CPPF helped structure the researcher's examination of participants practice processes, participants described a process that was less discrete and focused on five key steps: Step 1: Getting to Know the Community; Step 2: Getting the Ball Rolling/Planning Together; Step 3: Building (upon) Community Occupational Opportunities; Step 4: Revisiting the Approach/Plan; and Step 5: Striving for Sustainability. These key steps occurred within a practice context and frames of reference that were also important to understand and explore as part of this study.

**Conclusion:** Participants identified specific knowledge and skills used in community-centred practice (e.g., community/collective occupations, community assessment, working with champions) but also highlighted the less tangible attitudes/approaches required that do not specify what to do but rather how to engage with communities. This research provides useful conceptualizations and practical examples of how the practice process is adapted to occupational therapy community-centred practice.