Economic evaluations of occupational therapy for people with cognitive and/or functional decline: A systematic review

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Rationale

Age related cognitive and functional decline is associated with increased health and social care costs.

Service providers are expected to offer care that can reduce the societal and economic impact of the ageing population.

Little is known about the cost effectiveness of occupational therapy interventions for supporting people with cognitive and/or functional decline.
What are the costs and outcomes of occupational therapy for people with cognitive and/or functional decline and/or their caregivers?
Methods

8782 Unique records
- 8669 Not relevant

115 Full-text articles assessed for eligibility
- 71 Multidisciplinary intervention (<70% OT)
- 16 Review or summary
- 5 Not in English
- 3 No cost comparison
- 3 Study protocol only
- 2 No economic evaluation
- 2 Hypothetical study using financial modelling

2 Additional records found through hand search

13 Articles included
Results

1 Frail older people
1 Once off assessment
2 Dementia specific
1 Tele-rehabilitation
1 Residential care
1 Healthy lifestyle
3 Falls prevention
2 Function specific
1 Parkinson's disease
Results
8 Studies showed better economic outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Target population</th>
<th>Sub-group</th>
<th>Approach</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salkeld (2000)</td>
<td>Older adults who had a recent fall</td>
<td>History of Falls</td>
<td>Systematic/ falls</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hay (2002)</td>
<td>People aged ≥60</td>
<td>Consumer</td>
<td>Systematic/ multicomponent</td>
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<td>Consumer &amp; Caregiver</td>
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<td>Campbell (2005)</td>
<td>People aged ≥75 with poor vision</td>
<td>Consumer</td>
<td>Systematic/ falls</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Caregiver</td>
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<td>Sturkenboom (2015)</td>
<td>Parkinson’s Disease</td>
<td>Caregiver</td>
<td>Systematic/ multicomponent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jutkowitz (2012)</td>
<td>People aged ≥70, cognitively intact</td>
<td>Consumer</td>
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<td>Sheffield (2013)</td>
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<td>Carande-Kulis (2015)</td>
<td>Falls prevention programs for older people</td>
<td>Consumer</td>
<td>Systematic/ falls</td>
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Implications and conclusion

• Future studies should include a cost evaluation of service and its delivery.

• Interventions should:
  • Consist of a number of consultation sessions
  • Improve the home environment
  • Improve the ability of the person
  • Improve the skills of their caregiver
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