PRACTICE PATTERNS OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS IN THE MINDANAO REGION, PHILIPPINES: UPDATES, ISSUES, AND IMPLICATIONS TO THE PROFESSION

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Data collected on occupational therapists in the country are:

- lumped with information about PTs and SPs
- largely from the Luzon region, particularly the NCR
- limited information has been obtained regarding the practice of occupational therapists in the Mindanao Region
To determine:

- how the professionals are currently distributed in the region
- the profile of occupational therapists practicing in Mindanao
- the nature of occupational therapy practice in the area
Descriptive study using purposive sampling

Self-report questionnaire distributed through:
- Personal delivery
- Electronic mail
**DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE**
- Between 21 - 25 y/o (75.0%), female (94.0%), one or two years off college (70.0%)
- 2 years or less in practice (79.25%)

**NATURE OF EMPLOYMENT**
- Urban areas (90.57%) in free-standing pediatric clinics (71.0%) paid in a per hour basis (73%)
PRACTICE OF THE PROFESSION

Around half work 6 days per work, 8 hours a day, largely catering to the pediatric population (83.0%); mainly involved in evaluation and treatment.

Management techniques used: BMT (98.11%); Fine Motor Skills training and Sensory Integration (92.45%); ADL Re/Training (90.57%)

Majority pursue continuing education activities, usually twice per year (47.17%)

Many do not engage in research (98.11%) and clinical training (69.81%) nor have conducted any lectures of seminars (83.0%)
Implications to the Profession

- Adds to current knowledge on OT practice
- Adds to knowledge on human health resource in the region
- Highly relevant and useful in policy-making