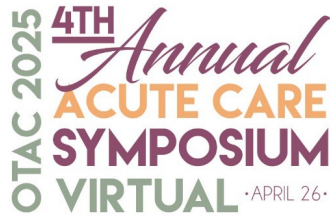




# 4th Annual OT in Acute Care Symposium (5.5 PDU's)

## VIRTUAL



### DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION

**VIRTUAL**  
**Saturday**

**April 26, 2025**

**9:00AM to 3:00PM**

### QUESTIONS?

Email OTAC staff at [staff@otaconline.org](mailto:staff@otaconline.org) or chat live M-F, 9AM to 4PM

**\*Early Bird Registration ends April 14, 2025**

**\*\*Advance Registration between April 15, 2025 through March 6, 2025**

**Last Day to Register April 24, 2025**

Register Online  
<https://otac.site-ym.com/events/register.aspx?id=1945119&itemid=4aec43f4-415a-4c74-8408-8da2a9806ad7>



### Schedule (5.5 PDU's)

9:00am-9:15am	Welcome and Introductions
9:15am-10:15am	Interprofessional Collaboration in Acute Spinal Cord Injury Care
10:15am-11:15am	From Delivery to Recovery: The Acute Care Occupational Therapy Practitioner's Impact on Postpartum Rehabilitation
11:15am-11:30am	Break
11:30am-12:30pm	Team Dynamics: The Contribution of Occupational Therapy in the Multidisciplinary Neurological ICU
12:30pm-1:30pm	Occupational Therapy in the Emergency Department: More Than Just Discharge Recommendations
1:30pm-1:45pm	Break
1:45pm-2:45pm	Assessing Visuomotor Function, Visuconstructional Reasoning, and Higher-Order Neurocognitive Capacities
2:45pm-3:00pm	Q&A; Wrap-Up

REGISTRATION FORM: One form per person. Please type or print clearly. Check appropriate boxes.

	MEMBERS	NONMEMBERS	MEMBER STUDENTS	NONMEMBER STUDENTS
EARLY BIRD*	<input type="checkbox"/> \$89	<input type="checkbox"/> \$119	<input type="checkbox"/> \$59	<input type="checkbox"/> \$79
ADVANCE**	<input type="checkbox"/> \$109	<input type="checkbox"/> \$139	<input type="checkbox"/> \$79	<input type="checkbox"/> \$99

TOTAL DUE: \$\_\_\_\_\_ Please review the cancellation/refund policy.

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Employer\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_ State\_\_\_\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

Mobile\_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT OPTIONS: CHECK ONE

Check (payable to OTAC) # \_\_\_\_\_  MasterCard  Visa  AMEX  Discover

Credit Card Number\_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date\_\_\_\_\_ VCode\_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name\_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

### SUBMIT PAYMENT:

Fax to: 916/294-0415, or  Mail to: OTAC, 3620 American River Dr., Ste. 230, Sacramento, CA 95864, or

### REGISTER ONLINE - [CLICK HERE](#)

**Cancellation/Refund Policy.** \$35 is retained to cover cancellation/refund processing costs. Written notice must be received in the OTAC office by April 24, 2025, to be eligible for refunds. No refunds after this date. Disclaimer: OTAC reserves the right to make changes to the program. No refunds will be made based on these changes.

9:00am – 9:15am – **Welcome and Introductions**

9:15am – 10:15am

### **Interprofessional Collaboration in Acute Spinal Cord Injury Care**

*Jana LaMarca, OTD, OTR/L, ATP, MSC;*  
*Colin Lenington, OTD, OTR/L, ATP, CAPS;*  
*Joayn Truong, PT, DPT, NCS, ATP*

This presentation will provide details about traumatic and atraumatic spinal cord injuries. Topics will include evaluations and assessments, projected functional expectations, roles of team members, and trauma-informed care and the management of secondary conditions/sequelae from a spinal cord injury. Case studies will help bring information to life. The main objective is for participants to have tools that are easy to implement in their workplaces.

10:15am – 11:15am

### **From Delivery to Recovery: The Acute Care Occupational Therapy Practitioner's Impact on Postpartum Rehabilitation**

*Christyna Kiesel, OTD, OTR/L, PMH-C*

This presentation will focus on the critical role of occupational therapy practitioners in the acute care setting for postpartum rehabilitation. Participants will explore evidence-based approaches to screen, evaluate, and treat patients recovering from cesarean sections and vaginal deliveries. Attendees will gain valuable knowledge to address common challenges, promote holistic recovery, and support the patient's transition into postpartum. This session will emphasize the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration and biopsychosocial care in improving patient outcomes.

11:15am – 11:30am – **Break**

11:30am – 12:30pm

### **Team Dynamics: The Contribution of Occupational Therapy in the Multidisciplinary Neurological ICU**

*Patrick Harding, OTD, OTR/L*

Occupational therapy practitioners' presence in the neurological ICU is powerful, coordinating the care of complex patients, engaging families, and navigating nuanced conversations with other medical team members. Through this presentation, specific instances where the unique lens of our profession served patients in this setting, even within the context of severe illness will be discussed.

12:30pm – 1:30pm

### **Occupational Therapy in the Emergency Department: More Than Just Discharge Recommendations**

*Alyssa Cormack, MSOT, OTR/L (CO);*  
*Ashley Thompson, MSOT, OTR/L (CO)*

Colorado's largest and nationally ranked hospital has made a home for occupational therapy practitioners within its emergency department. With a large focus on preventing readmissions and supporting safe discharges, OT is now consulted on numerous cases that include physical, cognitive, and psychological needs. Years of data collection support the presence of a full-time occupational therapy practitioner within this hospital's emergency department. In the emergency department, OT provides more than just discharge recommendations, and we have proven ourselves as an integral part of the interdisciplinary team. We will share about how OT's presence within the emergency department improves medical work-up and diagnostics, short and long-term care planning, cognitive and psychosocial considerations, and reduces rehospitalizations.

1:30pm – 1:45pm

### **Break**

1:45pm – 2:45pm

### **Assessing Visuomotor Function, Visuconstructional Reasoning, and Higher-Order Neurocognitive Capacities**

*Jess Holguin, OTD, OTR/L*

Patients in the acute care setting, across all diagnostic populations, are at risk of experiencing varying degrees of neurocognitive impairment. Informed in part by advances in neuroimaging and neuroinformatics, there has been a proliferation of neuroprotective protocols developed for both surgical and non-surgical patient populations in the acute care setting. Nevertheless, patients often experience changes in function that escape detection. As supported by the OT practice framework, acute care practitioners are well-positioned to provide invaluable visuomotor, visuconstructional reasoning, and higher-order

neurocognitive capacity screening, assessment, and intervention. This session will overview evidence and in-place practices informing this area of service that directly impacts patients' outcomes and independent functioning.

2:45pm – 3:00pm -- Q&A; Wrap-Up

### OT in Acute Care Symposium Committee

Lucy Hosoda, OTD, OTR/L, CBIS, CSRS, CLT, Neuro-IFRAH  
Danny Pavlovich, OTD, OTR/L

### About Our Presenters



**Alyssa Cormack, MSOT, OTR/L (CO)**, is an acute care occupational therapy practitioner who works primarily in the Emergency Department at University of Colorado (UC) Hospital. A native Michigander, she completed her undergraduate degree in psychology and

Spanish at Hope College in Holland, MI. She then completed a master's in occupational therapy at Grand Valley State University and began her OT career in 2021. Cormack has worked at various hospitals in the Denver, CO, metropolitan area and has experience with numerous patient populations, including orthopedics, neurology, transplant, cardiovascular, general medicine, OB/postpartum, surgical, geriatrics, oncology, and ICU. She enjoys the emergency department because of the variety of patient populations and embracing the challenge of complex discharge planning. She is most interested in the cognitive and psychosocial elements involved in patients' care, especially for geriatric patients.



**Patrick Harding, OTD, OTR/L**, is an occupational therapy practitioner (OTP) at UCSF Hospital, currently serving as lead OTP of the neuro service line. He began his adult life as a musician in Chicago, IL, but sought a way to blend his desire for creativity with helping others. After finding occupational

therapy, he enrolled at the University of Southern California. He completed his training there in 2020, graduating with an OTD and having completed an acute care residency at Keck Hospital.



**Jess Holguin, OTD, OTR/L**, works extensively with individuals who have experienced head injury, spinal cord injury, stroke, multitrauma, orthopedic conditions, and other medically complex conditions. His clinical

expertise derives from many years of experience, including his time as senior clinician for neurorehabilitation at St. Jude's regional brain injury rehabilitation center. Holguin has been an invited lecturer on topics such as neuro-rehabilitation, cognition and visual perception at the University of Southern California and the Braille Institute/Center for the Partially Sighted. As an associate professor of clinical occupational therapy, Holguin treats patients at Keck Hospital of USC, serves as mentor to faculty, residents and students, and develops programs targeting enhanced participation in meaningful activities for patients experiencing neurological dysfunction. As a former member of the USC Well Elderly 2 randomized controlled trial team, he contributed to the analysis and interpretation of research findings. His research interests include neurological rehabilitation, successful aging and the interrelated nature of well-being and participation in meaningful activity.



**Christyna Kiesel, OTD,  
OTR/L, PMH-C**



**Jana LaMarca, OTD,  
OTR/L, ATP, MSCS**, is an occupational therapy practitioner and clinical specialist in neurology at Tibor Rubin VA Long Beach. LaMarca specializes in mentorship for other clinicians in the care of veterans with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and multiple sclerosis (MS). She

has a clinical doctorate in occupational science and occupational therapy. LaMarca also holds an Assistive Technology Professional certification from the Rehabilitation Engineering & Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA). She is a multiple sclerosis clinical specialist designated by the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers (CMSC). She is also a Level 1 educator in trauma-informed care. LaMarca serves on the Adaptive Sports Expo Leadership Team, the Veteran Appreciation Committee, and the CARF Certification Leadership Team. She works in diverse settings within the Spinal Cord Injury Healthcare Group including wheeled mobility and seating, primary care, mental health, acute rehabilitation and assistive technology. LaMarca enjoys collecting data and analyzing outcomes for effective program development that impacts veterans and providers in their daily lives.



**Colin Lenington, OTD,  
OTR/L, ATP, CAPS**, is an occupational therapy practitioner and clinical specialist at the VA Long Beach Healthcare System within the Spinal Cord Injury & Disorders system of care. Lenington provides clinical care for veterans primarily with neurological conditions

including spinal cord injury (SCI), multiple sclerosis (MS), and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) in inpatient, outpatient, and acute rehabilitation settings as well as in the Wheelchair Seating Clinic and Assistive Technology Lab. In addition to the above specialty areas, Lenington is the program lead for the Adaptive Sports and Home Access & Safety programs. Lenington holds advanced certifications of Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) from the Rehabilitation Engineering & Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA) and Certified Aging-In-Place Specialist (CAPS) from the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). Lenington is also an adjunct faculty at the University of Southern California (USC) Chan Division of Occupational Therapy and Occupational Science, contributing to content and courses for occupational therapy masters and doctoral students.



**Ashley Thompson, MSOT,  
OTR/L (CO)**, is an acute care occupational therapy practitioner at UC Health. She grew up in a military family, moving all around the Midwest United States before settling in Denver, CO, more than two years ago. Thompson fell in love with OT while nannying a child with special needs as she

completed her undergraduate degree at Colorado State University. She then moved to Chapel Hill, NC, to pursue an MSOT, and graduated in 2022. She began her career at UC Health primarily working on the inpatient rehab floor and has since worked in several areas on the acute side of the hospital, including the Emergency Department.



**Joayn Truong, PT, DPT, NCS, ATP**, is a physical therapist and Board-Certified Neurologic Clinical Specialist with 10 years' experience treating veterans experiencing spinal cord injury (SCI), multiple sclerosis (MS), and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Her clinical

experience spans various healthcare settings in both the public and private sectors, from ICU, med-surge, and acute rehab to outpatient rehabilitation and home health. Currently, she supports the Tibor Rubin VA's Neurologic Physical Therapy Residency Program as a program coordinator and mentor, helping emerging clinicians develop their skills. Truong also serves as an adjunct professor at Chapman University's DPT program, teaching spinal cord injury and wheelchair seating modules. Her core professional commitment is translating current research into meaningful patient care.

### About This Symposium

#### Symposium Disclaimer

This Symposium is sponsored by OTAC for the purpose of professional development. The material presented is not intended to represent the only or the best methods appropriate for the occupational therapy and/or medical condition, or professional development issues being discussed but rather is intended to present the opinions of the presenters, which may be helpful to other health care professionals at arriving at their own conclusions and consequent application. Attendees participating in this professional development education program do so with the full knowledge that they waive any claim they may have against OTAC and its representatives for reliance on any information presented during this educational event.

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**Why OTAC Symposia?** To support OTAC Core Value 7 – Professional Development: To provide quality education and resources to advance the knowledge, skills, and continued competence of occupational therapy practitioners and its mission to support the profession.

**OTAC Mission Statement.** OTAC is the collective voice that serves, promotes, and supports the profession of occupational therapy.

### UPCOMING VIRTUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIA

OTAC 2025 **7<sup>TH</sup> Annual MENTAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM VIRTUAL** •MAY 31•

OTAC 2025 **4<sup>TH</sup> Annual ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM VIRTUAL** •JUNE 20•

OTAC 2025 **7<sup>TH</sup> Annual SCHOOL-BASED SYMPOSIUM VIRTUAL** •SEPTEMBER 13•