



Title of Study: Establishing a core Canadian curriculum for vision rehabilitation in entry level occupational therapy education: What essential knowledge and skills do occupational therapists require?

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Why am I being given this form?

You are invited to take part in this research study because as a provider or recipient of services, we believe you have important perspectives on the topic of vision loss education for occupational therapy students.

Why is this study being done?

This study aims to develop a consensus on essential knowledge, skills and behaviours for entry level occupational therapists regarding working with people with vision loss. This information will be used to develop a core Canadian curriculum for vision rehabilitation in entry level occupational therapy education.

What is expected of me?

We will provide you with a list of competencies related to vision loss for generalist occupational therapists as found in the literature and discussed with the research team. From that list, we will ask you to provide your opinion as to whether each is appropriate to generalist practice, or alternatively, if it could be re-worded to better suit generalist occupational therapy practice. We will also give you an opportunity to note whether any competencies are missing.

The competency list has been organized according to the Profile of Practice of Occupational Therapy in Canada to help align the competency document to an occupational therapy framework.

We estimate the survey will take 15-20 minutes. However, there will be no time limit so you may complete it at your own pace. Any comments you provide will be analyzed by the research team to further develop the competency document. Once you submit your answers, you cannot withdraw them. You have the option to refrain from answering questions if you choose.

Your responses will be provided through an accessible platform called Qualtrics. We recognize that some people may use screen readers to complete this study. Therefore, we have been conscious of the format of the survey to support screen reader navigation. Please contact us if there are any barriers (e.g., accessibility, format) to completing the survey

What are the potential risks I may experience?

There are no foreseeable risks to completing this survey.

Can I expect to benefit from participating in this research study?

If you wish, you can enter your name into a draw for the chance to win a gift certificate valued at \$25. Participants may also gain indirect knowledge of skills or strategies that may support people with vision loss as a result of completing the survey. Furthermore, future occupational therapy clinicians and students will benefit from the improved curriculum competencies which will translate into client care.

Do I have to participate? What alternatives do I have? If I agree now, can I change my mind and withdraw later?

Your participation in this study is voluntary. You can choose not to take part in any section of the survey. There is no penalty for choosing to not answer some questions. However, your responses cannot be withdrawn once you submit your answers. You have not waived any legal rights by consenting to participate in this study.

How is my personal information being protected?

- While no on-line service is 100% secure, we will limit the risk by using a platform that has security features in place and processes that prevent people entering without an invitation.
- A unique identifier will be used throughout this study. It will not link your results to any personal identifying information, unless you choose to provide us with that information.
- If you wish to be entered into a draw for participating in the study, but not participate in Phase Two, your contact information will not be linked to your results and you will be directed to a separate link where you will provide contact information for the draw only. This information will be kept confidential and only viewed by the research team.
- If you are an occupational therapist, and choose to provide personal identifying information (i.e., email to participate in further phases of the study) it will be kept confidential and only viewed by the research team. Information you will be required to provide is your identifier and contact information. This means your results can be accessed by the research team for the purpose of contacting you to participate in Phase Three.
- The research team will be the only people who have access to your comments and personal information which will remain confidential throughout the Phases of the study.
- The results of this study may be presented in publications or presentations, but no participant will be identified with the results.
- Research records will be kept for 5 years; after this time, they will be destroyed.
- The Queen's General Research Ethics Board (GREB) may request access to study data to ensure that the researcher(s) have or are meeting their ethical obligations in conducting this research. GREB is bound by confidentiality and will not disclose any personal information

Who do I contact if I have any further questions?

If you have any questions about this study, please contact Rosemary Lysaght at lysaght@queensu.ca.

If you have any ethics concerns, please contact the General Research Ethics Board (GREB) at 1-844-535- 2988 (Toll free in North America) or email chair.GREB@queensu.ca.