

Rolling up to a larger impact – inviting countries to join an international occupational therapy suicide prevention network

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DISCLOSURE: THERESA STRAATHOF RECEIVES ROYALTIES FOR SOME OF THE RESOURCES ON OUR WEBSITE

Objectives

The goal of this presentation is to:

explore the role of OT as an international collective for suicide prevention

propose an outline of what an international suicide prevention in occupational therapy collective could look like with interested delegates

Why – Impact of Occupational Therapy in Suicide

Value and advocate for life promotion through occupations and occupational roles

Equitable access to occupations

Access to occupational therapy and social healthcare initiatives to promote occupations beyond surviving.

(Hewitt-McVicker, K. et al., 2023)

CAOT's Occupational Therapy Suicide Prevention Network



What

Document development

Conversations that Matter at conference, podcast

Respond and engage international OT partners i.e. chapter, AOTA conference, respond to requests to support international colleague's suicide prevention work

Explore Opportunity for International Collective

- Limit duplicated efforts
 - Move beyond question of “Is there a role for OT in suicide prevention?”
 - Help to get clarity on our role with our interdisciplinary colleagues on OT role in suicide prevention
- Propel narrative forward efficiently
 - Coauthor resources i.e. Brown et al text
- Coaching and mentoring on curriculum development
- Coordinated voice to name strengths and challenges i.e. across Canada we are not unified in how suicide prevention is approached or understood in OT and beyond



Invitation to Join

Invitation to join collective

First meeting March 2026

Who is at table, who needs to be at table

Determine norms and values

Determine 1st project

Complete 1st project by March 2027

Let's collaborate!

Share resources

- We have linked our position statement to the presentation for your access
- Check out our network webpage with resources developed and endorsed by the CAOT Suicide Prevention Network

Join the Global Occupational Therapy Suicide Prevention Collective!

Come by the CAOT
Booth to share
contact information
and stay connected



Email
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References

Hewitt-McVicker, K., Rouleau, M., Straathof, T., Larivière, N., Vrbanac-Cress, H., Froese, D., White, C., Hébert., M.L., Patel, M., Shimmell, L., Schooley, R., & Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists. (2023). CAOT Position Statement: Occupational therapy to prevent and support suicide. Ottawa, ON: CAOT

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