



**Southern Cross
University**



‘It’s like the OT was my Sensi’

Understanding consumer priorities for
occupational therapy curriculum

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Background

- Consumer perspectives must inform the design, delivery and evaluation of occupational therapy program (OTC 2018, WFOT, 2016)
- Consumers can teach students valuable information (Soon et al., 2022).
- Despite this, varying level of consumer engagement in occupational therapy program exist (Arblaster et al., 2015; Scanlan et al., 2019)



Aim: To explore consumer perspectives on the most important attributes and qualities of occupational therapists

Methodology

Qualitative descriptive study

Consumer led, semi-structured interviews

Consumers of occupational therapy services

Occupational Therapy Curriculum

Consumer Driven Recommendations

- Listening is the core skill
- Humility and openness
- Person-centred, functional practice
- Technical competence
- Professional and clear communication
- Honest and realistic hope
- Lived experience throughout the degree
- Creative, flexible problem solving