

Therapy in Support of Inclusive Education

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INTERNATIONAL INCLUSIVE EDUCATION SUMMIT

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DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
COLLEGE OF ALLIED MEDICAL PROFESSIONS
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES MANILA



International Summit and Seminar on Inclusive Education - Part 2

'Schools FOR ALL'
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Principally inclusion of children with disabilities

- (n.b. Martin Luther King School, Urbana, Illinois)
- Challenges of addressing all inclusion issues simultaneously



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Early intervention

- School success is greatly enhanced by early intervention
 - Attentional skills
 - Perception
 - Pattern detection
 - Environmental explorations – sensory motor patterns
 - Mobility
 - General social and language development
- E.g. Faith, girl with Down's Syndrome from Bacolod

Therapy in the School Systems

- International School Manila
- Current situation?
 - Students with special needs not accepted
 - Parents enrolling their children without informing the school of their status
 - Getting support services outside of the school
 - Therapists not allowed to observe classroom context
- E.g. Pisay, Exclusive school for boys



Physical Therapy Support for Inclusive Education

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Physical therapy is services provided by physical therapists to individuals and populations to develop, maintain and restore maximum movement and functional ability throughout the lifespan.

World Confederation for Physical Therapy, 2017

Promotion

Prevention

Treatment/
Intervention

Habilitation

Rehabilitation



Potential services in the Philippine school system

- Promotion of health and well-being of students, faculty and staff through adapted physical activity programs
- Disease prevention through school-based programs and teaching-learning strategies that emphasize physical activity engagement
- ***Provision of physical therapy assessment and intervention strategies for movement-related dysfunctions***



Potential services in the Philippine school system

- ***Environmental modifications that facilitate optimal performance of tasks***
- ***Collaboration with teachers, families and other professionals to ensure continued participation of students***
- ***Provision of consultation services that promote a positive and inclusive environment for all stakeholders***



Occupational Therapy Support for Inclusive Education



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Role of OT

- Provide education and training in how to **adapt the classroom environment**, how to **modify teaching techniques** and how to **access assistive devices** so as to adjust and meet environmental demands
- Enable the teachers to best meet the needs of all individuals in the classroom
- Design of learning plan for transition to profession
 - Starting Grades 3-5



Occupational Therapists target...

Person	Environment	Occupation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directly addressing physical and psychosocial health concerns • Providing strategies for taking in and retaining information • Enabling the learner to think about coping mechanisms when faced with stressors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modifying the physical environment by adapting tools and equipment to fit the needs of the learner • Establishing supports in the social environment in collaboration with teachers and co-learners • Promoting accessibility of other aspects of the context and environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjusting the aspects of a learning activity (steps, demands, etc) to provide “just right challenge” and have a good fit with the learner • Collaborates with teachers and school administrators to allow alternative ways of learning within the circumstances of the learning environment

Speech Pathology Support for Inclusive Education



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Speech Pathology

Speech Pathology is a discipline dedicated to enhancing the communication-related quality of life of persons whose **development and functioning** are **impaired** by **physical, physiological, neurological, environmental** and/or other **challenges to speech and language** that are generally greater than those **experienced by the average person.**



Examples of SP Supports

- Phonological development to enhance reading skills (decoding)
- Social stories for students with Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Concept mapping for students with ADHD
- Development of low frequency lexicon used across several subject areas
- Literacy skills in students with Hearing Impairment
- Assistive and/or Augmentative Communication systems for students with Verbal Apraxia, Cerebral Palsy, ASD, et al.

Audiology Support for Inclusive Education



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Audiologists

- Systematic screening for hearing loss
- Provision of amplification
 - hearing aids, cochlear implants [with ORL]
 - Technical support for hearing devices
- Assessment of
 - Environmental noise
 - Signal to noise ratio
 - Optimal seating and lighting conditions
 - Most comfortable loudness levels
- Design of FM systems (e.g. doctoral statistics class)
- Training of teachers, other students and school staff

Challenges



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Challenges

- Funding for services
- Venue for services
 - In-class
 - Pull out
 - After class
- US System – in school but very short period; test heavy (need to prove that the child deserves funding)
- Philippine Model – heavy involvement of family

Additional Measures of Success

- Change in perspective of teachers, staff and other students
- The “Other side”



Thank you



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INCLUSION INITIATIVE

