



The WFOT Global Survey in Assistive Technology: Occupational Therapists' Experiences around Provision & Access

3-4 August 2017
Geneva, Switzerland

WFOT; Liliana Alvarez^{1,2,3}, Ritchard Ledgerd¹, Sarah Wallcook^{1,3}

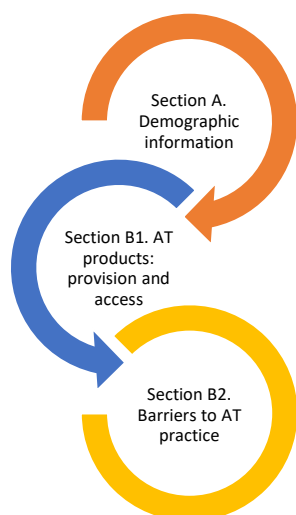
World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT); Colegio Colombiano de Terapia Ocupacional, Colombia; University of Western Ontario, Canada; Karolinska Institutet, Sweden

GS 02

Assistive Technology supports the health and wellbeing of people with disabilities however, international variance in current provision and access must be better understood in order to meet local needs. WFOT is undertaking a survey of occupational therapists worldwide to identify current AT provision and access practices and determine perceived barriers and facilitators to universal access in the local context.

WFOT AT Global Survey

WFOT is currently undertaking a **global survey** of occupational therapists' experiences regarding AT product provision and access. The survey will explore three areas as described in *Figure 1*.



What is the impact for AT users and other stakeholders?

Understanding the current characteristics and barriers to AT provision and access will enable the development of targeted and contextually relevant strategies to increase access to AT.

Implications for Products, Provision, Personnel or Policy?

Products: The survey will identify the most frequent products that occupational therapists see in practice and how they map unto the GATE priority products.

Provision: The survey will identify the funding mechanisms for AT products, and the cost to the user; as well as barriers to provision.



Personnel: The survey asks occupational therapists to identify the professionals involved in AT prescription and provision within their context.

Policy: Together, the results of this survey will result in advocacy strategies aimed at promoting equitable provision and access to AT in member organizations.

Implications for other aspects of the Global Research Agenda

The results of this survey will provide critical information regarding the current practices around the provision of AT globally, and the barriers to successful implementation. AS such, they will enable the development of implementation and monitoring strategies regarding the global AT research agenda.

Strategies to share and build global capacity based on this work

The WFOT welcomes dialogue with international stakeholders:

- ✓ Distribution of the survey
- ✓ Participation in WFOT prospective position statement
- ✓ Capacity building strategies

Contact details for global liaison

WFOT
admin@wfot.org



World Federation of
Occupational Therapists