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Abstracts from Hebrew

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## **Establishing the Reliability and Validity of The Weekly Calendar Planning Assessment in a Healthy Population in Israel**

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**Key words:** Executive functions, participation, time management, temporal organization, TOPS questionnaire

The purpose of this study was to establish the validity and reliability of a new assessment tool developed by Toghia referred to as "The Weekly Calendar Planning Assessment" (TAMASH in Hebrew), within a sample of healthy adults. Performance of activities of daily living requires intact executive functioning, including the ability to manage time efficiently. Existing measurement tools are often complicated and lack a time management component. For this reason the TAMASH was developed for its ecological validity, simplicity, and ability to examine time management. Ninety-four participants were tested, using two assessments; the TAMASH and the Time Organization and Participation-TOPS questionnaire. The results showed that there were no significant correlations between the two assessments. Moderate to high test-retest reliability was found, ranging from ICC=0.6 to 0.85. Significant correlations were found between demographic data and performance in the TAMASH. This study supports the use of the TAMASH as an assessment of executive functions in clinical populations. In addition, the results will help establish a base-line of performance and norms for healthy adults. To conclude, findings of the current study show that the TAMASH is suitable for the Israeli population. However, further research is needed with a larger sample of healthy adults, other clinical populations and to compare the TAMASH with other assessments.

The study was performed as part of the Measurement and Evaluation course in the graduate program of the Department of Occupational Therapy, University of Haifa.

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## **Professional Development among Self-Employed Occupational Therapists**

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**Key words:** Professional development, evidence-based treatment, professional competence, self-employed therapists

### **Abstract**

Professional development is an ongoing process. This article reviews different approaches that define professionalism, professional development and assessment of skills. The article examines criteria that influence professional development among a unique sector: self-employed therapists. The basic demands required of self-employed therapists are described, as well as methods for self-assessment. In addition, we present enabling and disabling factors that influence the professional development of self-employed therapists. The main aim of this article is to raise awareness about the need for self-employed therapists as well as to help find solutions that will aid in establishing professional development.

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## **Occupational Therapy in the Field of Mental Health Rehabilitation - Processes of Learning and Growing**

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**Key Words:** Community, recovery, management, supervision, forum

With the advent of the Mental Health Community Rehabilitation Act, many job opportunities and a variety of roles in positions of influence opened up for occupational therapists in this area of practice. The integration of occupational therapists in this area was made possible because of a number of reasons: (1) the knowledge and professional tools available to occupational therapists are compatible with the rehabilitation and recovery approach, (2) occupational therapists in key positions involved in formulating the Act, opened the doors to multi-professional work approach that included occupational therapists, (3) support systems were set up to allow for continued and enhanced integration in the field through training, peer support groups and a forum. An initial survey, conducted among 37 occupational therapists working in mental health rehabilitation, examined the motives that led them to enter this area of practice and the factors that resulted in their remaining within it. The purpose of the survey was to learn how to continue ensuring the presence of occupational therapists in the field. The findings indicate that the most important elements for succeeding in this goal are education and training opportunities, support networks, as well as factors that relate to the nature of occupational therapists communication with the clients, and the ability to fight the effects of stigma.

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