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AOTA JOINS WORLD PARKINSON CONGRESS AS ORGANIZATIONAL SPONSOR

(Washington, DC) — The American Occupational Therapy Association is an Organizational Sponsor of this week's **World Parkinson Congress** meeting in Washington, DC. The event brings physicians, scientists, allied health professionals, caregivers, and people with Parkinson's disease together to create a worldwide dialogue that will help expedite the discovery of a cure and best treatment practices for this devastating disease.

"AOTA has enthusiastically joined our fellow partners at the World Parkinson Congress," said AOTA President M. Carolyn Baum, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA. "This is the first Congress of its kind. We have an important opportunity to work with other health care providers in establishing a comprehensive approach that meets the needs of Parkinson's patients."

Occupational therapy practitioners are health, rehabilitation, and wellness professionals who enable Parkinson's patients to experience optimum participation in daily life. Occupational therapy treatments for Parkinson's patients include:

- **Facilitating** a person's joint movement and helping to maintain it;
- **Improving** a person's dexterity and coordination;
- **Developing** and practicing safe techniques for balance;
- **Teaching** adaptive techniques to reduce the effects of a tremor for improved hand function; and
- **Implementing** activities that enhance a person's voice volume for better communication.

For more information on occupational therapy and Parkinson's disease, see AOTA's consumer tip sheet "**Living With Parkinson's Disease**."

The American Occupational Therapy Association, established in 1917, represents nearly 40,000 members. AOTA is an active advocate for the profession, and for individuals who can benefit from occupational therapy services.