

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION ENDORSES OUTCOMES MEASUREMENT TOOL

AOTA Partners with CREcare to Use AM-PAC Data in National Outcomes Database for Occupational Therapy

Bethesda, MD — The American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), the national professional association for occupational therapists, occupational therapy assistants and students, today announced the endorsement of the Boston University Activity Measure for Post Acute Care (AM-PAC™) as an outcomes measurement tool for occupational therapy. The AM-PAC tool will be a measure used to gather functional improvement data for AOTA's national outcomes database for occupational therapy.

The AM-PAC, a state-of-the-art outcome instrument provided by CREcare, LLC, assesses a client's functional status across three domains: basic mobility, daily activities and applied cognitive. The AM-PAC was developed by researchers at the Boston University Health and Disability Institute.

"The AM-PAC is appropriate for functional assessment in adults with a wide range of conditions and functional abilities. The AM-PAC is ideal for tracking these outcomes as a client progresses across an episode of care. Clients can respond to AM-PAC items or the instrument can be completed by clinicians or family members," said Richard Moed, President and CEO of CREcare. "We look forward to working with AOTA to gather data for the national outcomes database."

Along with AM-PAC scores, the national database will include client demographics, type of intervention, frequency of intervention and other critical outcomes data. Users will be able to benchmark and compare treatment outcomes across facilities and against national averages when the system is fully operational.

"The ultimate benefit would be the availability of information for use by individual practitioners and facilities to track the outcomes of their services and to use this information for quality improvement and for marketing their services with external organizations," said AOTA President Penelope Moyers Cleveland EdD, OTR/L, BCMH, FAOTA.

AOTA's system will help to impact health care policy, as well. "AOTA's Board of Directors identified the creation of a national outcomes database as a priority to meet the the growing demands of consumers, payers and policymakers for demonstrating the value and effectiveness of occupational therapy," said Frederick P. Somers, AOTA's Executive Director.

Founded in 1917, the **American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)** represents the professional interests and concerns of more than 140,000 occupational therapists, occupational therapy assistants and students nationwide. The Association educates the public and advances the profession of occupational therapy by providing resources, setting professional standards and serving as an advocate to improve health care. Based in Bethesda, Maryland, AOTA's major programs and activities are directed toward promoting the professional development of its members and assuring consumer access to quality services so clients can maximize their individual potential, participation in society and live life to its fullest. For more information, go to www.aota.org.

CREcare, LLC, established in May 2005, develops and implements state-of-the-art clinical outcome measurement systems to provide clients with the information needed to improve the quality and efficiency of the care they deliver. For more information, go to www.crecare.com.