

Understanding the Role of Fidelity Measures in Shaping Evidence-Based OT Practice

The success of an intervention is affected by the fidelity to which the intervention is implemented. There is an underlying assumption that an intervention is being implemented as it was intended. However, the real-world clinical environment is more susceptible to contextual factors than is the controlled research environment in which interventions are designed. A fidelity tool ensures that the framework, standards and essential components of the intervention are implemented as intended by the developers. Implementation of evidence-based practice (EBP) interventions is critical for long term sustainability of our profession. An evidence-based intervention must be implemented in full accordance with its published details; therefore, a fidelity measure would ensure a quantifiable measure of the adherence to the components of the intervention. This session will explore the importance of fidelity measures in conducting evidence-based practice and examples of fidelity measures currently used in OT practice. Participants will learn how a fidelity measure is designed using the Occupational Performance Coaching-Fidelity Measure (OPC-FM) as an example.

Speaker Bio

Dr. Shruti Gadkari currently works as an Assistant Professor at Pacific University. Shruti completed her post-professional Doctorate from Thomas Jefferson University, PA. She worked as a clinical practitioner for nine years primarily in pediatric occupational therapy settings before joining as a faculty member at Pacific University. She currently teaches the pediatric process courses and an Evidence-Based Practice course at Pacific. Her research focus includes family centered care and early intervention. As a fairly recent import to the Pacific north-west, Shruti is enjoying exploring the outdoors and everything that this beautiful location has to offer.

Financial Disclosures: Dr. Gadkari does not receive an honorarium for this course.

Nonfinancial disclosure: There are no nonfinancial disclosures.

By the end of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the role of fidelity measures in ensuring evidence-based implementation of an intervention.
2. Describe how a fidelity measure is constructed and utilized in clinical practice.

This course is an Introductory Level with content focus in Professional Issues.

Completion of this course is recognized by the OT Oregon Licensing Board as 1.5 contact hours.



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