

# Champions

## Definition:

Champions will be registered and practicing occupational therapists and / or occupational therapy assistants who are interested in promoting research and research activities (audit, service development and evaluation).

## Aims are to:

- Promote engagement in the network
- Promote engagement in research and research activities (audit, service development and evaluation)
- Be a point of contact for occupational therapists, who are interested in becoming research active
- Have some understanding of research and research related concepts and approaches

## Attributes:

- Interested in progressing along the research continuum
- Enthusiastic about evidence-based practice / research
- Excellent communication skills, including social media (Twitter)
- Research experience advantageous but not necessary
- Willingness to positively question own and others' practice to generate new knowledge

## Essential skills (in line with Level 1 Evidence, Research and Development Pillar):

- Read different types of materials and discuss the findings, complete standard forms, keep accurate records and undertake research and service evaluation processes with guidance from more experienced colleagues

## Desirable skills (in line with Level 2-6 Evidence, Research and Development Pillar):

- Undertake systematic information searches, select relevant information, recruit research participants, record routine research / service evaluation data with guidance
- Apply evidence to inform practice with guidance from more experienced colleagues
- Disseminate evidence including effective writing for a range of situations with more experienced colleagues
- Identify evidence gaps and contribute to the formulation of critical question(s) which warrant further research, audit or service evaluation, considering policy drivers and future research priorities
- Contribute to grant applications and awards with support from more experienced colleagues
- Facilitate the involvement of service users, staff and / or students to co-design and co-produce aspects of research and / or service development with more experienced colleagues

- Contribute to the development of guidelines and policy at a local, regional and / or national level
- Contribute to peer review processes, e.g. journal reviewer, conference abstract reviewer, scientific programme committee
- Contribute to the supervision of research assistants and Masters projects