



Ontario Society of
Occupational Therapists

Linked To Learn

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENT



Linking with The Alzheimer's Society: The Role of OT in Alzheimer's Awareness & Advocacy

Presented by:

Sylvia Davidson, MSc OT Reg. (Ont.)

AND

**Julie Wong, Public Education Coordinator,
Alzheimer Society of Toronto**

Webinar Description:

Most of us are aware of the startling increase in the diagnosis of dementia in older adults across Ontario. However, what we may not realize is how often we, as occupational therapists, identify the early warning signs of memory loss and gradual cognitive decline in our clients. We see these individuals in acute care and rehab settings, in outpatient programs and in the community. Sometimes the occupational therapist is the first person to raise a concern, at other times it is a family member struggling to understand what is happening to a loved one. This presentation will highlight the crucial role that occupational therapy can play in early identification of this important issue and offer some key strategies to help answer some of the difficult questions faced by everyone involved.

In addition, this presentation will allow participants to learn about the programs and services provided by the Alzheimer Society Chapters followed by information about programs and services more specific to the Toronto Chapter such as the Caregiver Project.

The first portion of this webinar will be presented by Sylvia Davidson. She will support participants understanding of:

- Key assessment findings that help determine when cognition is impaired
- Developing confidence in advocating for clients when risks are a concern
- Increasing awareness of the range of resources available for support

The second portion of this webinar will be presented by Julie Wong. She will encourage participants to:

- Establish an understanding of the counselling, support groups, and education sessions available at the Alzheimer Society of Toronto
- Coordinate use of the resources available that can help to prepare for, and possibly prevent a missing incident
- Discern the benefits that personalized music may have for people with dementia and their care partners
- Understand how to make a referral to the Alzheimer Society through First Link

We hope you enjoy this programming!



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