Why Join ArizOTA?

Arizona Occupational Therapy Association

www.arizota.org

Text ARIZOTA to 27000 for news & events

@arizonaoth /ArizOTAConnected
ArizOTA Member Benefits

Legislative Advocacy
Membership dues allow ArizOTA to employ a lobbyist to influence and shape public policy surrounding the practice of occupational therapy in our state. Our members also have opportunities to personally participate in the legislative process with events such as OT Hill Day.

Low Cost & Free CEUs
ArizOTA members are first to learn about and register for low- and no-cost CEU opportunities, including our monthly Journal Club and Special Interest Section events.

Recognition Opportunities
ArizOTA formally recognizes members who demonstrate exemplary service to the association, the profession, and the community.

News & Information
Our emails and frequently updated social media profiles give members access to the information they need to maximize their practice.

Research Grants
Membership dues support research initiatives for continuous growth and development of the occupational therapy profession.

State Conferences
Members enjoy reduced rates to our Fall and Spring Conferences which feature expert speakers on a variety of topics. These 1- and 2-day conferences allow attendees to earn at least 6.5 ABOTE-approved CEUs per day.

Special Interest Sections
Join with other OTs/OTAAs who specialize in specific areas of practice. ArizOTA members can participate in any of our current SIS groups, including Neuro, Pediatrics, Vision, Postsecondary Transition, and Home Health.

Leadership & Networking
Build our profession and enhance your resume by joining our Board of Directors, leading an SIS group, or chairing a committee. Connect with other dedicated OT professionals in Arizona at our social and educational events.

Become a Member!
Enter coupon code NAUOPI020 for $5 off.
Opioid Use Disorder as Cause & Effect of Brain Injury

What is Acquired Brain Injury?
An Acquired Brain Injury is damage to the brain that occurs after birth that is not the result of a congenital or degenerative disease. Causes can include:

- A blunt or penetrating injury to the head (Traumatic Brain Injury)
- Stroke
- Hypoxia (insufficient oxygen to the brain) or anoxia (complete lack of oxygen to the brain)
- Can result from heart attacks, near drowning, and drug overdose

Opioid Use Disorder as Cause of Acquired Brain Injury

Opioid Use Disorder Can Result in an Opioid Overdose

Opioid Overdose describes acute poisoning of the body as a result of excessive opioid intake. This is a serious condition that can result in death.

Acute Opioid Overdose depresses oxygen intake and circulation, which can result in anoxia or hypoxia in the brain, often leading to lasting injury.

Opioid Use Disorder can also result in impaired decision-making that can lead to acquired brain injury.

According to the National Institute of Health (NIH), opioid overdoses resulted in over 47,000 deaths in 2017.

Recommendations

Prevention

Overdose prevention and education programs must take into account the increased risk faced by brain injury survivors and make extra efforts to reach out to them as well as their families and caregivers. It is also imperative that these programs partner with professionals who work with survivors in order to create initiatives that effectively serve this population.

Medical professionals and policy-makers must partner to create guidelines that mitigate the risk of opioid addiction amongst brain injury survivors and provide potential alternative treatments for pain.

Substance Abuse Treatment

Substance abuse treatment facilities must be mindful of the prevalence of brain injury amongst their population and make adequate efforts to screen incoming patients to determine any past BI history.

Brain injury survivors with an identified substance abuse disorder often have difficulty finding a facility that can help them while also working with their unique cognitive, behavioral, and emotional challenges. It is crucial that facilities are available that are staffed and trained to be able to meet these needs.