

29 May 2024

Occupational Therapy Waiting Lists

1. Could you please provide general waiting list data for OT?

The Occupational Therapy Service does not hold a general waiting list, it holds elective waiting lists under community programmes of care Adults, Children and Intellectual Disability.

The following is the Adult, Children and intellectual disability waiting list as of 10 May 2024

- Adults: 1845
- Children: 237
- Intellectual disability: 39

2. Could you also provide OT waiting list data for:

a. Children

See above

b. Mental health patients

OTs work within community integrated Mental Health teams, therefore there is no OT specific waiting list.

c. Stroke patients

Occupational Therapists who work in the community and treat clients who have had a stroke are part of the Integrated Community Stroke team and do not hold a uni-professional waiting list, therefore figures cannot be provided.

3. Could you provide information regarding the primary areas that occupational therapists are addressing or dealing with the most?

Intellectual Disability

Provision of Occupational Therapy Services for adults aged 18+ with a confirmed diagnosis of an Intellectual (Learning) Disability following psychometric testing.

The service provides OT assessment and intervention relating to functional Activities of Daily Living (ADLs), 24-hour postural management, housing adaptations, provision of equipment, independent living skills, sensory assessments, assisting in management of behaviours which challenge and engagement in meaningful activity.

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Adult Community Service

Provide Occupational Therapy assessment and intervention within service users own home environment, including care homes, or at an Occupational Therapy clinic, for any person over the age of 18 who permanently resides within Belfast Trust and experiences functional difficulties due to an impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. Adult Community Occupational Therapy enables service users to carry out these activities of daily living through advice, provision of equipment and recommendation for minor or major home adaptations.

Children's Community Occupational Therapy

Provide Occupational Therapy developmental /functional assessment and treatment with children under the age of 18 who experience difficulties due to an impairment that has an adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.
We also complete postural assessment and equipment provision to maximise function and make recommendations for minor and major housing adaptations.

Occupational Therapy for Children and Young People in School

The Occupational Therapy Service within special schools falls into broad categories:

- engagement in therapeutic activity, focused on age appropriate personal activities of daily living, (washing, dressing, feeding, toileting, personal grooming and postural management)
- developmental play
- supporting children's sensory needs to engage in class based activities
- equipment provision.

Occupational Therapy will offer advice, treatment and intervention as appropriate to overcome or help with the difficulties identified and is aimed at enhancing the activities of the child or young person and their ability to access the curriculum.

Mental Health

Interventions to promote mental health recovery, social and occupational function. Functional needs assessment for residential and supported living as part of the care management process. Discharge planning, Activities of Daily living, Community living skills, vocational interventions, health promotion and psychoeducation.