

Title of the Bachelor thesis:

The Significance of Occupational Therapy Intervention in the Case of Male Sexual Dysfunction with a Cervical Spinal Cord Injury - For People with Neurological Profile NLI C₄-C₈ AIS A, B

Bachelor Thesis Abstract

This thesis addresses the sensitive topic of sexuality and sexual dysfunctions of men with an injury of the cervical spinal cord. The objective of this work is twofold; to break the taboo surrounding the sexuality of people with this disability, and most importantly to find solutions to sexual dysfunctions within occupational therapy that could be applied regularly.

The theoretical part of this thesis summarizes incidence, diagnosis, and consequences of spinal cord injury, specifically in the cervical spinal cord. One of the vegetative results of such an injury is sexual dysfunction. In this work is described male sexuality, erectile dysfunctions, anejaculation, along with possible treatments and compensation. A chapter on occupational therapy summarizes general occupational therapy interventions with people with spinal cord injuries in different stages and defines the role of an occupational therapist in an interprofessional team of practitioners qualified for treating sexual dysfunction of men with spinal cord injuries. A framework for occupational therapy interventions was created along the PLISSIT model and The Sexual Assessment Framework. Subsequently, a possible occupational therapy procedure was created; one that is applicable to people with cervical spinal cord injury.

The practical part of this thesis is an analysis of interviews of four different respondents. The analysis was subsequently generalized and data collected from online questionnaires was added.

The result of this thesis was a draft for a short brochure summarizing general information about sexuality after cervical spinal cord injury, which is absent in the Czech Republic. In the future this brochure could be used as a possible tool in occupational therapy when treating problems concerning sexuality.

Key Words: occupational therapy, cervical spinal cord injury, tetraplegia, sexual dysfunction of men, intimate life after spinal cord injury