

**Factors for Delay in Receiving Occupational Therapy
Intervention for the Children with Autistic Spectrum
Disorder: A Rehabilitation Centre Based Exploratory Study**

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Abstract

Title: 'Factors for Delay in Receiving Occupational Therapy Intervention for the Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder: A Rehabilitation Centre Based Exploratory Study.'

General objective: To identify the factors for the delay in occupational therapy intervention for children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

Specific Objectives: To explore the factors of the health care delivery system, factors of inaccessibility of information, economical impediment, psychosocial factors and gender discriminatory factors resulting in the delay of occupational therapy intervention.

Study design: The study was an exploratory type of qualitative study through face to face interviews.

Study place: Pediatric unit at Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP)

Sample: All principle caregivers of children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder who were having occupational therapy treatment from the Pediatric unit of CRP during data the collection period of the study.

Sampling procedure: Purposive sampling

Result: Inadequate health care delivery systems in Bangladesh, inaccessibility of information about ASD and occupational therapy, financial crisis, negative perceptions about disability and gender discriminatory factors which delayed up take of occupational therapy interventions.

Conclusion: From the result of this study it was found that most of the caregiver of autism took occupational therapy treatment delay because of delay referencing from doctors, lack of knowledge about ASD and OT, financial crisis and also gender discrimination. For reducing these factors it will be necessary to improve awareness in the general population and also within the government.

Key words: Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Occupational Therapy, Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP).