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Capability framework for occupational therapists supporting people with environmental and home modifications



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This capability framework outlines the essential knowledge, skills, and attitudes required for occupational therapists supporting people with environmental and home modifications across various career stages and across all relevant Australian service settings.

The framework aims to:

- Facilitate occupational therapists' self-reflection and decision making regarding their practice
- Help practitioners identify areas where they may need to enhance their knowledge or skills relevant to their service setting or area of practice
- Demonstrate the professional practice expectations of occupational therapists at different career stages
- Support advocacy for the role, function and scope of practice of occupational therapy to key stakeholders, including government, funding bodies, employers and managers

This framework does not:

- Intend to be prescriptive or restrictive
- Expect practitioners working with environmental and home modifications to meet all capabilities listed - capabilities are selected and applied based on clinical experience, specific settings and contexts
- Expect practitioners to operate at the same proficiency level across all capabilities

Capability in this framework refers to an occupational therapist's overall potential for effective practice in varied situations, encompassing their skills, knowledge, personal attributes, critical thinking, adaptability, and commitment to learning. It's about their inherent ability to apply understanding flexibly, solve complex issues, make sound judgments, and grow professionally, rather than a list of current skills or performance in familiar tasks. Capability acknowledges the evolving nature of practice and the need for occupational therapists to adapt[1].

Occupational Therapy Australia

Guiding approaches

The capabilities outlined in this framework are relevant to occupational therapists working specifically in environmental and home modifications. Capabilities fundamental to *broader occupational therapy practice*, such as those outlined in the Australian Occupational Therapy Competency Standards (2018), are expected to be implemented but fall outside the scope of this framework and as such are not explicitly included in this document.

For example, it is expected that practitioners will engage in evidence-based practice and that occupational therapists across all career stages engage in regular professional supervision to assist in enhancing and consolidating their capabilities in accordance with the OTA Professional Supervision Framework (2025). Additionally, occupational therapists are expected to always work within their professional scope of practice. It is expected that occupational therapists working as sole practitioners are operating at an intermediate to senior practitioner level.

In addition, the framework expects that all practitioners, including those working with environmental and home modifications, will adopt:

- Practises that support cultural humility and deliver culturally safe and responsive care that acknowledges and navigates diverse communication, ownership, and health perspectives, especially for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.
- A trauma informed approach, understanding how trauma may impact a person physically, emotionally, psychologically and cognitively, and recognising how trauma may influence an individual's engagement in occupation and their participation in life roles and situations.
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer, Intersex and Asexual (LGBTQIA+) and gender diversity aware practices, including adopting inclusive language.
- Neurodiversity affirming practices, understanding the influence of neurodiversity on an individual's occupations and participation, valuing the unique strengths and identity of all people and focusing on differences over deficits.

The framework in context

This framework is one in a suite of capability frameworks developed by Occupational Therapy Australia and should be used in conjunction with other relevant capability frameworks to inform practice. Information on the range of other Capability Frameworks available can be located via the Occupational Therapy Australia website: https://otaus.com.au/capability-frameworks.

Occupational Therapy Australia recognises the interconnection and synergy between assistive technology and environmental and home modifications in occupational therapy practice. However, in recognition of the complexity inherent in each of these areas of practice, the evolving context within Australia, and

Occupational Therapy Australia

feedback from the profession, two distinct capability frameworks have been developed - this framework focuses on occupational therapists working with environmental and home modifications, while a separate framework addresses assistive technology. This ensures that the unique skills and knowledge required in each area are adequately represented.

This framework is designed to complement *broader* standards and frameworks such as the Australian Occupational Therapy Competency Standards (2018), the OTA Occupational Therapy Scope of Practice Framework (2017), the OTA Professional Supervision Framework (2025), the OTA Australian Evidence Based Practice Position Statement (2019), and the OTA Code of Ethics (2025).

In defining the capabilities required for environmental and home modification practice, several caveats apply.

- Workplace and setting-based capabilities are not included, these are considered the responsibility of employers.
- Prescriptive guidelines and competencies for specific practices, interventions or tools are not included in this framework.
- The capabilities are presented independently, without influence from funding, employment type, setting, or geographical location.

Navigating the framework

The capabilities are organised into five domains. The domains are highlighted in ochre, and the associated capabilities are listed below. The list of capabilities is not hierarchical.

Each capability is described across three levels of proficiency, reflecting career stages. The career stages run left to right from least to most experienced, representing good practice at each stage. The career stages are reflective of knowledge and experience rather than years of practice. The career stages are

- **Foundational Practitioner:** At this stage, practitioners demonstrate foundational skills and knowledge in environmental and home modification principles, approaches and provision, they work under supervision and focus on implementing simple solutions for individuals with less complex presentations.
- **Intermediate Practitioner:** At this stage, practitioners demonstrate enhanced skills and experience to work independently applying more complex principles and approaches. They continue to work under supervision and may also provide supervision to Foundational Practitioners and support the development of procedures, resources and quality improvement activities.

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- **Senior Practitioner:** At this level practitioners demonstrate expert-level knowledge and skills, working with complex presentations and innovative approaches. They provide high-level consultation, supervise others, and may contribute to or lead service development, quality assurance and improvement activities, policy and advocacy related to access and provision of environmental and home modifications.

When considering the complexity of the work appropriate to each career stage, there may be a range of factors that should be considered:

Low Complexity Cases *(typically Foundational Practitioners)*:
Scenarios where:

- The person's functional goals and needs are clearly defined and stable.
- The physical, cognitive, and sensory presentation is clear.
- Environmental and contextual factors are familiar and easily modifiable.
- The use of non-structural environmental or home modification solutions are appropriate.
- There is minimal risk involved in decision-making or implementation.
- The person and/or support network can easily engage with the proposed solution.

Example: Recommending a grabrail in a toilet to aid with transfers for an older person living with osteoarthritis in their knees.

Medium Complexity Cases *(typically Intermediate Practitioners)*:
Scenarios where:

- The person's needs require a more detailed assessment and problem-solving.
- There may be multiple functional issues or intersecting diagnoses to consider.
- There may be building integrity or structural factors that need to be explored and addressed in the design of the environmental and home modification.
- There may be the need to bring multiple environmental and home modification solutions together to achieve the desired outcome.
- There may be the need to consider the use of AT solutions and the amalgamation of these solutions in the design of the environmental or home modification.

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- There may be emerging or fluctuating conditions, or psychosocial/environmental factors that influence success.
- Collaborative input (e.g. From family, other professionals) is often needed.
- Risk is moderate, and clinical reasoning needs to be clearly documented.

Example: Widening of entrance doorway and some internal doorways to support the use of a powered wheelchair for someone living with quadriplegia in accordance with local authority and other jurisdictional requirements and in accordance with Building Construction Codes.

Complex Cases *(typically Senior Practitioners)*:
Scenarios where:

- The person presents with multifaceted or deteriorating physical, cognitive, sensory, or psychosocial issues.
- High levels of customisation, modification, or innovation are required.
- Multiple stakeholders (e.g. Family, school, NDIS, medical specialists) are involved, often with competing needs.
- The intervention involves significant risk and/or ethical considerations.
- There is a need for ongoing review, complex review and design processes, or integration of multiple environmental and home modification solutions along with assistive technology and digital systems.
- Advocacy for funding, access, or systemic barriers may be a key component of the role.

Example: The design of an extension to the bathroom area to create a fully accessible environment that supports the integration of assistive technology solutions like ceiling track hoists and mobile shower chairs.

Definition of environmental and home modifications

Environmental and home modifications encompass alterations and modifications to a range of settings including home and domestic environments and public spaces like workplaces, schools and community settings.

Occupational Therapy Australia

There is no internationally recognised definition of environmental or home modifications. The World Health Organisation acknowledge in their 'Housing and Health Guidelines' the critical role of adapting homes to enhance accessibility and safety for individuals with functional limitations[2].

Equally in Australia there is no agreed definition for environmental or home modifications. The definition is often created specific to funding, legislation and regulatory systems.

For the purposes of this capability framework environmental and home modifications are defined as alterations to the physical environment to enhance a person's independence, safety, and participation in daily life[3 pp. 3-16].

In the context of home modifications, Siebert defines home modifications as "the conversion, adaptation, or customisation of the home environment to make performing of tasks easier, reduce accidents, and support independent living both now and in the future for the client and relevant others. It may also include recommendations and training in the use of new techniques or adaptive equipment[5].

The range in scale and complexity of home modifications can vary and are typically defined as either minor modifications or major modifications.

Minor Modifications: These are non-structural changes, typically involving the installation or alteration of fittings and fixtures. Examples include grab rails, shower seats, and other assistive devices[6 p. 12]. These modifications are usually low-cost, can often be installed by unskilled labour, and generally do not require compliance with building or plumbing codes or local planning regulations[4, 7].

Major Modifications: These involve structural changes to the fundamental fabric of the building (e.g., widening doorways, relocating plumbing, installing ramps[6 p. 12]. These modifications can be expensive and necessitate installation by qualified or registered professionals. Their implementation may require adherence to building or plumbing codes, depending on local, state, or federal regulations[4].

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The unique role of occupational therapy in environmental and home modifications

Occupational therapists bring unique knowledge and skills to the assessment and prescription of environmental and home modifications setting us apart from other professionals. Using holistic, person-centred approaches, occupational therapists are specifically trained to analyse the interaction between the person, their occupation and the environment. This unique perspective ensures an individual's functional abilities, limitations, occupational performance and participation goals, and daily routines are aligned with the features of their environments.

In the context of environmental and home modifications, occupational performance and participation considers the interplay between the person, the occupation and the physical environment on their ability to choose, organise and satisfactorily perform meaningful occupations. Occupational participation considers this further with environmental and home modifications allowing an individual to have access to, initiate and sustain valued occupations and meaningful relationships in the context of the environment and their occupational performance and participation goals[8].

In the context of home and domestic settings, the occupational therapist can assess for and prescribe modifications to support occupational performance and participation. When considering adaptations to public spaces, it is not within the scope of an occupational therapists to prescribe these types of modifications. Instead, occupational therapists will work collaboratively with access consultants, developers and building professionals to advocate for adaptive features that support occupational performance and participation.

It is recommended each occupational therapist have adequate professional indemnity and public liability insurance coverage and understand the expectations and limitations of their coverage. This is particularly relevant when providing recommendations around public access spaces.

The impacts of environmental and home modification

Environmental and home modifications have the potential to significantly improve the accessibility, safety and independence of individuals living with functional impairments. These modifications can often be the key to individuals having access to and participating in their desired occupations. In the context of home and domestic settings, these modifications allow individuals to choose where they live and who they live with, influence the experience of ‘home’ including feelings of safety and security, supports social connections and engagement in local communities and networks and ultimately supports improved wellbeing, health and quality of life outcomes[9]. They can also provide positive outcomes to the broader society and economy.

It is worth understanding the importance of how these modifications may also negatively impact a person, their carers, the property and broader systems. Irrespective of whether minor or major, modifications that aren’t appropriately prescribed and installed can cause a range of serious outcomes including

serious and significant injury or death and costly rectification works. It is worth noting that the repercussions of an inappropriately prescribed and installed modification can extend to both the prescribing practitioner and their employers.

As such, supervisors and employers have a responsibility to provide adequate support and training to their supervisees and staff, ensuring clear risk mitigation and support strategies are adopted.

Acknowledgements

The Occupational Therapy Australia (OTA) Capability Framework for Occupational Therapists supporting people with environmental and home modifications was developed in collaboration with an Expert Advisory Group (EAG) and through multiple consultation phases with the broader occupational therapy profession. OTA acknowledges the contribution of the Expert Advisory Group and all occupational therapists who contributed their time, insights and expertise to the development of this framework.

Occupational Therapy Australia

Capabilities

Domain 1: Core knowledge of systems, models and frameworks 12

1.1 Legislation, models, regulatory systems, standards and guidelines[10] 12

1.2 Scope of practice 13

1.3 International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF)[11] 14

1.4 Occupational therapy frameworks and models of practice 15

1.5 Design considerations 15

1.6 Best practice evidence for environmental and home modifications ... 16

1.7 Funding sources and systems 17

1.8 Restrictive practice 18

1.9 Culturally responsive practice 19

1.10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self determination 20

1.11 LGBTQIA+ inclusive and affirming practice 21

1.12 Neuro-divergent affirming practice 22

Domain 2: Technical skills and principles of practice for environmental and home modifications 23

2.1 Person centred and ethical practice[12] 23

2.2 Respect for personal spaces 24

2.3 The Environmental and home modification process 25

2.4 Measurement of the environment 26

2.5 Drawings and diagrams 27

2.6 Documentation 28

2.7 Education and training 30

2.8 Post modification follow up 31

2.9 Outcome measures and goal evaluation[13] 32

2.10 Communicating with others 33

2.11 Representation and conflicts of interest[14] 34

2.12 Continuing professional development 35

2.13 Clinical supervision 36

Domain 3: Assessment of factors for consideration in the design of environmental and home modifications 37

3.1 Occupational performance and participation 37

3.2 Physical and anthropometric assessment[15] 38

3.3 Functional mobility 39

3.4 Sensory assessment 39

3.5 Psychosocial assessment 40

3.6 Cognitive and functional cognition assessment 41

3.7 Social, family and Carer requirements[9, 16, 17] 42

3.8 Manual handling 43

3.9 Assessment of assistive technologies[18] 44

Occupational Therapy Australia

3.10 Assessing the environment[16] 44

3.11 Barriers to environmental and home modifications[19, 20] 46

3.12 Risk assessment – site visits 47

3.13 Risk assessment – external parties 48

Domain 4: Occupational-focused interventions and outcome measures for environmental and home modifications 49

4.1 Building access[12] 49

4.2 Bathroom and self-care environments 50

4.3 Kitchen or food preparation environments 51

4.4 Laundry environments 51

4.5 Bedrooms 52

4.6 Social and communal environments (e.g. Living rooms) 53

4.7 Shared care spaces 53

4.8 Schools, learning environments, workplaces and community settings 54

4.9 Natural environments 55

4.10 Outdoor domestic spaces 55

4.11 Environmental and home controls and home automation[21] 56

4.12 Assistive technology[17] 57

4.13 Sensory approaches 58

4.14 Behavioural approaches 59

Domain 5: Working with other health professionals and key stakeholders 60

5.1 Working within a multidisciplinary team 60

5.2 Working with carers and significant others 61

5.3 Working with building service professionals 62

5.4 Working with architects, builders and project managers 63

5.5 Working with AT suppliers, technicians and rehabilitation engineers 64

5.6 Working with intermediary roles 65

5.7 Working with the wider community 65

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
Domain 1: Core knowledge of systems, models and frameworks	All occupational therapists working with environmental and home modifications require a strong understanding of the design frameworks, legislation, funding and governance systems and how these operate at local, state and federal government levels. The occupational therapist needs to understand how these factors interplay with occupational therapy models of care and occupational performance and participation goals. This requires the occupational therapists to have a strong understanding of occupational therapy models of practice and occupation along with a robust knowledge of health and disability and the needs of those living with complex and progressive conditions. Practitioners must also ensure they consider the impact of trauma, cultural identity, and history on the design and development of environments and are expected to maintain contemporary knowledge across these areas throughout their career and adopt the requisite strategies to support this.		
1.1 Legislation, models, regulatory systems, standards and guidelines[10] The occupational therapist understands and complies with the legislation and regulation systems applied internationally, federally and across states/territories and local authorities. This might include the World Health Organisation (WHO) Safe Communities' model, Australian Disability Discrimination Act, federal and state building codes, the Australian Standards 1428 and related technical standards and guidelines. The occupational	The occupational therapist is familiar with the relevant state, territory and federal legislation that may apply to their work in environmental and home modifications. The practitioner works to ensure that they are actively applying the legislation and guidelines in their practice to ensure the safety and individual rights of their clients are upheld. The practitioner seeks the support of their senior colleagues and supervisor to ensure accurate and consistent application in practice.	The occupational therapist demonstrates a working understanding of relevant legislation and regulatory systems applied federally, across states/territories, and by local authorities. The occupational therapist can identify and apply relevant aspects of technical standards and guidelines to their practice in environmental and home modifications and can provide a rationale for any variations that are considered necessary using their assessment findings to support their clinical reasoning and seeking	The occupational therapist contributes to service design and delivery to maximise the rights and capacity of individuals under the relevant legislation, codes and guidelines. The practitioner supports less experienced practitioners to develop their capacity and application of the legislation and guidelines in their practice to ensure the safety and individual rights of their clients are upheld.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
therapist understands the limitations of access standards, technical guidelines and standards and provides appropriate, defensible justification for variation based on assessment findings and when it can be demonstrated that recommendations made benefit the safety and occupational performance and participation of the individual or other stakeholders.		consultation with senior practitioners for more complex circumstances.	
1.2 Scope of practice The occupational therapist engages in a broad scope of practice when working with environmental and home modifications, encompassing assessment, intervention, implementation and evaluation to promote enablement and enhance participation. Occupational therapists recognise and work within the limitations of their scope of practice and engage with other professions as required. As well as	The occupational therapist develops an understanding of their scope of practice in environmental and home modifications, recognising their limitations and seeking supervision when required. They apply foundational assessment and intervention strategies within their competence level and collaborate with senior practitioners to navigate complex cases. They develop skills in referring to other professionals and	The occupational therapist demonstrates confidence in defining their scope of practice and working independently within their area of competence. They critically reflect on their skills and experience, identifying areas for professional growth. They effectively collaborate with multidisciplinary teams, integrating perspectives from other professionals to enhance environmental and home modification solutions. Intermediate	The occupational therapist demonstrates advanced capability in defining and working within their scope of practice. They critically evaluate their own knowledge and skills, ensuring alignment with professional standards and best practices. The practitioner provides high-level guidance on complex cases, recognising when interdisciplinary collaboration is required to optimise outcomes. They critically evaluate emerging

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
adhering to the broader occupational therapy scope of practice, occupational therapists must recognise and work within their own clinical competence, which is determined by their experience, training, knowledge, and skill level.	services when needed to ensure safe and effective outcomes.	practitioners guide less experienced colleagues in understanding and navigating their own scope of practice.	environmental and home modification solutions and their implications for occupational therapy practice. They provide professional supervision to other practitioners to support skill development and ensure adherence to professional and ethical boundaries. They may contribute to professional discussions, service design, and policy development to ensure sustainable, high-quality service provision.
1.3 International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF)[11] The occupational therapist is familiar with the ICF framework and how it is used to define and measure health and disability at both an individual and population level and uses the framework to support their assessment and clinical reasoning	The occupational therapist expands their knowledge and application of the ICF to their assessment and prescription of environmental and home modifications with the support and guidance of more senior practitioners.	The occupational therapist can consistently apply the ICF framework in their practice to support tailored and person led approaches to their assessment and prescription of environmental and home modifications.	The occupational therapist has a strong understanding of the ICF classifications and can not only apply them to their clinical practice but can consider them when building clinical pathways and processes for environmental and home modifications to support person led outcomes. The practitioner can educate and support more junior practitioners in their interpretation

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
when considering environmental and home modifications.			and application of the ICF in their practice.
1.4 Occupational therapy frameworks and models of practice The occupational therapist understands how to apply occupational therapy models of practice to support assessment, information gathering, and the development of therapeutic interventions related to environmental and home modifications. The occupational therapist is familiar with key models of contemporary occupational therapy practice to ensure quality clinical performance with a focus on client-led care and mitigation of risks to safety or harm.	The occupational therapist has knowledge of current evidence-based occupational frameworks and models of practice and their application in environmental and home modifications. The practitioner can apply appropriate models in their practice with the support of more experienced peers.	The occupational therapist can independently apply current evidence-based occupational therapy frameworks and models of practice relevant for environmental and home modifications across a range of circumstances. The practitioner understands how to choose appropriate frameworks and models to align with the needs of the client and intended outcomes and goals.	The occupational therapist has a strong understanding of the use of occupational therapy models of practice and frameworks, can contribute to the education and training of less experienced practitioners, and contributes to research and the implementation of models and frameworks within the organisation or service.
1.5 Design considerations The occupational therapist understands and applies the	The occupational therapist builds their knowledge and application of accessible design principles and	The occupational therapist is familiar with and can accurately select and apply the relevant models and	The occupational therapist has an advanced understanding of accessible design considerations

Occupational Therapy Australia

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concepts embedded within the various models, including Universal Design and Liveable Housing Design Standards, to support inclusivity, adaptability, safety, accessibility and occupational performance and participation. Practitioners understand that these standards are not mandated but instead provide the basis for minimum design standards and should be considered alongside legislated requirements. Practitioners should also have a knowledge of design principles that supports their assessment of design feasibility and cost benefit analysis.	models both locally and globally to support their assessment and prescription of environmental and home modifications and seeks the guidance and support of a senior practitioner when required.	design principles to best support their clients' occupational performance and participation and personal goals. The practitioner supports less experienced practitioners to build their awareness and use of relevant models and principles.	and supports the development of processes and policies that support the local application of these considerations in their service. The practitioner can direct and support other less experienced colleagues with the interpretation and application of accessible design models and principles.
1.6 Best practice evidence for environmental and home modifications The occupational therapist continually reviews and updates their understanding of best practice evidence for environmental and home modifications and applies this	The occupational therapist understands the importance of evidence-based practice in environmental and home modifications. They start to familiarise themselves with current best practice guidelines and evidence, applying this knowledge	The occupational therapist independently applies best practice evidence to their clinical practice, integrating it into their decision-making when assessing and recommending environmental and home modifications. They stay updated on the latest research and	The occupational therapist has expertise in applying and advancing best practice evidence in environmental and home modifications. They continuously review and integrate the latest research and guidelines into their clinical practice, ensuring their

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
to not only their clinical reasoning and practice but to their organisation to ensure both the practitioner and the service are equipped to deliver continuous quality assurance and governance with regular review and improvement.	under supervision to inform their clinical reasoning and decision-making. They contribute to the quality assurance process by assisting in the documentation and review of modification outcomes, and they are guided by senior practitioners to improve their application of evidence in practice.	best practices, ensuring that their interventions align with the most current evidence. The practitioner also helps maintain a culture of continuous improvement by actively participating in feedback loops and incorporating evidence into their work.	interventions are evidence-based and align with the highest standards. They lead the development and implementation of quality assurance and governance processes within their organisation, and support more junior practitioners in the application of evidence-based practices.
1.7 Funding sources and systems The occupational therapist is familiar with the various sources of funding for environmental and home modifications and the different approaches that may be taken in private vs public funding scenarios. The practitioner understands the requirements of public funding programs such as clinical qualifications and expertise, funding caps or restrictions on types of modifications, documentation requirements, eligibility requirements and limitations to	The occupational therapist has general knowledge funding systems and programs available for environmental and home modifications. The practitioner can educate and support the client and their family to better understand the funding they're accessing and manage their expectations with the support of senior practitioners when necessary.	The occupational therapist has a strong understanding of funding systems and programs available for environmental and home modifications and is familiar with how to advocate for increased funding support as required. The practitioner is competent in making the required applications or referrals for funding and supports less experienced practitioners to build these skills.	The occupational therapist has an advanced understanding of the funding systems and programs available for environmental and home modifications. The practitioner can advocate on funding reviews and policy decisions regarding environmental and home modification funding and support less experienced practitioners to develop their understanding of funding available for environmental and home modifications.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
funding. The practitioner balances these expectations against the individual needs and preferences of the person and their occupational performance and participation needs and goals when assessing and prescribing environmental and home modifications.			
1.8 Restrictive practice The occupational therapist understands how environmental, and home modifications may restrict a person's ability to interact with the environment or prevent engagement in meaningful occupations. The occupational therapist understands the legislative and governance requirements around restrictive practices, and should restrictive practices be applied, the practitioner should consider evidence based best practice approaches to mitigate the use of restrictive practices and work with other health professionals,	The occupational therapist builds their knowledge of restrictive practices and the impact of environmental and home modifications on a person's ability to engage with their environment and participate in meaningful occupations. The practitioner, with direct supervision from senior practitioners, can identify situations where environmental and home modifications may result in restrictive practices and understand the legislative and governance requirements around restrictive practices.	The occupational therapist is familiar with and can confidently identify and assess situations where restrictive practices or environmental and home modifications may impact occupational engagement. The practitioner can, with direct supervision from senior practitioners, apply relevant models and evidence-based practices to mitigate the use restrictive practices, ensuring that any application is justified and in line with best practices and in compliance with relevant legislative and governance frameworks.	The occupational therapist has an advanced understanding of restrictive practices and their implications across a range of clinical complexities and situations. The practitioner plays a key role in developing and refining systems, policies, and processes that support best practices related to restrictive practices. The practitioner can critically evaluate their own practice and lead initiatives to reduce or eliminate the use of restrictive practices, utilising evidence-based strategies. They also support less experienced practitioners guiding

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
specialists in behaviour support and restrictive practice and the relevant authorities to identify rectification pathways and suitable solutions wherever possible.			them in the identification of modifications that may result in restrictive practice and the application of restrictive practices ensuring the alignment of practice with legislative requirements.
1.9 Culturally responsive practice The occupational therapist is aware of the impact of stigma and other cultural factors that may impact individuals from culturally diverse backgrounds and how this may influence their utilisation of health and disability services, their understanding of these systems and their progress. The occupational therapist understand that cultural factors influences environmental and home modification decisions and outcomes.	The occupational therapist understands how to provide culturally safe services to all clients and draws on culturally safe ways of working and providing therapeutic interventions. The occupational therapist understands how to work with culturally and linguistically diverse communities, including those with a refugee background, and is familiar with local services for culturally diverse communities. The occupational therapist understands the potential role of stigma and shame, as well as being familiar with the use of communication techniques that address language barriers.	The occupational therapist has strong knowledge of culturally safe practice and understands how to collaborate with the individual, their families and carers, cultural consultants, community-based organisations, and other partners, to support the design and delivery of culturally safe and appropriate therapeutic interventions to all clients.	The occupational therapist draws on individuals, families, and communities of all cultural backgrounds as active partners in the planning and development of culturally safe and appropriate service delivery and design. The practitioner works with less experienced occupational therapists to support them to develop an understanding of culturally safe practice.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
1.10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self determination The occupational therapist understands the impact of historical trauma and other cultural and societal factors that specifically impact Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to access effective home environments. The practitioner is aware of how these factors, and the cultural views of First Nations people, may influence decisions around utilisation and access to appropriate housing. The practitioner is aware of the primary social and health conditions impacting the First Nations communities as outlined in the National Agreement Closing the Gap, and how these may influence approaches taken to assess and prescribe environmental and home modifications.	The occupational therapist is building their understanding of the impact of historical trauma and other cultural and societal factors that affect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's access to effective environments. Practitioners are building an awareness of how these factors, along with the cultural views and the key social and health conditions of First Nations people, may influence their assessment and prescription of environmental and home modifications, seeking guidance from senior practitioners as needed.	The occupational therapist is familiar with the cultural and societal factors, including historical trauma, that impact Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's access to appropriate housing. Practitioners can incorporate the cultural perspectives of First Nations people into their assessment and decision-making process with an awareness of the primary social and health conditions affecting First Nations communities.	The occupational therapist has an advanced understanding of the impact of historical trauma, cultural factors, and social determinants on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's ability to access effective home environments. They their practice and ensure that their approaches to housing and environmental and home modifications are respectful of First Nations people's needs and values. Practitioners are skilled in integrating cultural views and perspectives into the development of culturally appropriate policies and procedures within their service and support less experienced colleagues in providing culturally sensitive and effective interventions.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
1.11 LGBTQIA+ inclusive and affirming practice The occupational therapist understands how the historical and lived experience of stigma and prejudice may impact members of the LGBTQIA+ community. The practitioner is aware of LGBTQIA+ history in Australia and understands the intersecting vulnerabilities experienced by LGBTQIA+ adults, which may put this population at greater risk of poorer health and social outcomes. The practitioner acknowledges the importance of home as a 'safe space' for the LGBTIQA+ community and supports the individual to access services that are appropriate to their needs and adopts safe and inclusive language in their clinical practice.	The occupational therapist is building their understanding of how stigma and prejudice may impact members of the LGBTQIA+ community and how intersecting vulnerabilities faced by the LGBTQIA+ community can lead to poorer health and social outcomes. The practitioner acknowledges the importance of home as a 'safe space' for the LGBTQIA+ community and is learning to adopt inclusive and respectful language in their clinical practice and seek guidance from senior practitioners as required.	The occupational therapist is familiar with the history of the LGBTQIA+ community in Australia and can independently and confidently support LGBTQIA+ individuals in accessing services that are appropriate to their needs, ensuring that their practice is sensitive, inclusive, and respectful of the unique experiences of LGBTQIA+ clients.	The occupational therapist has an advanced understanding of the historical and lived experiences of stigma and prejudice faced by members of the LGBTQIA+ community and play a key role in promoting LGBTQIA+ inclusive practice within their service, advocating for policies that address the unique needs of LGBTQIA+ individuals. Practitioners lead the development of inclusive practices and processes that are central to service delivery. Practitioners mentor and guide less experienced colleagues in adopting safe, inclusive language and fostering an affirming clinical environment for LGBTQIA+ individuals.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
1.12 Neuro-divergent affirming practice The occupational therapist adopts affirming practices and encourages the creation of inclusive environments that value neurocognitive variations. The occupational therapist applies a social-relational model of disability and emphasises changing the environment to accommodate all neurotypes.	The occupational therapist is building their understanding of neuro-divergent affirming practices and the importance of creating inclusive environments that value neurocognitive variations. The practitioner seeks guidance from senior practitioners to learn how to incorporate these practices into their assessments and interventions, ensuring that they create supportive, inclusive environments for neuro-divergent individuals.	The occupational therapist is familiar with neuro-divergent affirming practices and actively applies them to their practice consistently. Practitioners can confidently work with neuro-divergent clients, applying strategies that affirm and support their neurodiversity, while continuing to collaborate with others to support the delivery of wholistic and comprehensive neuro-affirming services.	The occupational therapist has an advanced understanding of neuro-divergent affirming practices and leads the promotion of inclusive environments that value neurocognitive variation. The practitioner actively represents the needs of the individual to ensure changes implemented to the environment support accessibility and inclusivity for all neurotypes. Practitioners play a leadership role in developing policies and practices within their service to promote neuro-affirming practice and support less experienced practitioners to incorporate neuro-affirming practices and systems to their service delivery.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
Domain 2: Technical skills and principles of practice for environmental and home modifications	All occupational therapists must possess and demonstrate a range of technical skills and principles of practice in their work with environmental and home modifications. Occupational therapists have an obligation to use environmental and home modifications to meet the needs of their clients and those who support them, protect and enhance the professions unique knowledge and skills in this area of practice and support the broader community and society by delivering best practice, evidence based, ethical and sustainable solutions. The use of environmental and home modifications as a clinical intervention must always be person led and with a focus on occupational performance and participation. Application of these technical skills and principles of practice ensure that environmental and home modification solutions support the continued safety, wellbeing and autonomy of those for whom the solution is designed and meets the needs of those who support them.		
2.1 Person centred and ethical practice[12] Occupational therapists working in environmental and home modifications recognize the importance of person-centred practice that considers a person's abilities, limitations (physical, cognitive, sensory), roles, habits, routines, and preferences, their occupational performance and participation goals, and the right to autonomy and self-determination. Integral to this is the occupational therapist's commitment to ethical	The occupational therapist is familiar with the principles of person-centred practice and can consider this in the context of environmental and home modifications. The occupational therapist recognises the importance of ensuring collaboration and engagement to ensure individual goals, preferences and needs are met. The occupational therapist begins to understand the client's right to autonomy and self-determination and works under supervision to adopt practices that support informed choice and respect	The occupational therapist demonstrates a commitment to person-centred practice in environmental and home modifications, actively considering the whole person throughout the modification process. The occupational therapist empowers the client's informed choice and acknowledges their human rights and personal preferences when recommending and implementing modifications. The intermediate practitioner applies an understanding of ethical practice	The occupational therapist consistently champions person-centred practice in environmental and home modifications, ensuring that all aspects of the process are driven by a deep understanding of the individual and their right to autonomy and self-determination. The occupational therapist leads by example in adopting practices that maximise informed choice, uphold human rights and personal preferences. The senior practitioner demonstrates expert understanding of ethical practice, proactively

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
practice, ensuring fairness, justice, and respect throughout the environmental modification process. The occupational therapist adopts practices that empower the client's informed choice, acknowledges their human rights and personal preferences, and supports them to live an independent, dignified, and fulfilling quality of life whilst managing their expectations. In doing this, the occupational therapist also understands 'duty of care' and 'dignity of risk' and their interplay when delivering person-centred care.	personal preferences within the modification process. The foundational practitioner develops awareness of ethical considerations in the modification process, including fairness and respect, and impact self-determination may have on risk.	and can navigate the interplay between 'duty of care' and 'dignity of risk' with increasing independence when delivering person-centred care. The practitioner can support more junior practitioners in their pursuit of these skills and supports system level changes that embed person-centred and ethical practice across teams and organisations.	addressing issues of fairness, justice, and respect, and skilfully balances 'duty of care' and 'dignity of risk' in complex scenarios, guiding less experienced practitioners in these critical aspects of person-centred care.
2.2 Respect for personal spaces The occupational therapist understands the importance of undertaking practices when visiting a person's private home that demonstrates respect for their personal space. This may include seeking permission to enter or take	The occupational therapist understands the importance of respecting an individual's personal space and culture when conducting home visits. Practitioners apply strategies that acknowledge personal preferences and cultural practices to support a successful	The occupational therapist consistently demonstrates respect for personal spaces by adopting a range of approaches. Practitioners consider cultural practices, privacy concerns, and the individual's personal preferences when planning and executing interventions in the	The occupational therapist is highly experienced in delivering approaches that reflect a deep respect for personal space and adapt their approach to meet the individual's preferences, cultural practices, and privacy needs. Practitioners lead by example,

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
photos, acknowledging cultural practices or spaces that may prohibit access and personal preferences and wishes.	interaction. Practitioners are supported by senior practitioners to develop their understanding of best practice approaches that facilitate respectful and positive therapeutic relationships.	person's home. Practitioners ensure that their actions reflect sensitivity to the client's environment and respect for their autonomy, making adaptations when needed to support the client's comfort and dignity.	ensuring that less experienced practitioners can observe best practice approaches to support their development of these skills.
2.3 The Environmental and home modification process The occupational therapist acts as a facilitator, expert, and collaborator, ensuring the home modification process is tailored to the individual, informed by evidence and collaboration and is environmentally and legally/ethically sound. The process includes: • Assessment of the person. • Assessment of the environment. • Needs identification and collaborative goal setting.	The occupational therapist applies the structure of the Environmental and Home Modification Process to lower complexity scenarios, under the supervision of more senior practitioners. The occupational therapist conducts assessments of the person and their environment, ensuring consideration of the interaction between the individual, their occupations, and the physical environment in lower complexity scenarios and seeks the support of senior practitioners to ensure all relevant information is gathered. The occupational therapist is supported in collaborative goal setting, can begin to evaluate and select basic	The occupational therapist applies the Environmental and Home Modification Process with autonomously when working with individuals who have more complex environmental modification needs. The occupational therapist analyses client needs and environmental factors using professional reasoning to ensure modification solutions are aligned with occupational goals and the unique aspects of the environment. The occupational therapist collaborates effectively with clients, families, builders, funding bodies and suppliers to identify and refine modification plans. The occupational therapist oversees the	The occupational therapist demonstrates expert proficiency in the Environmental and Home Modification Process for individuals with highly complex and varied needs and can actively problem solve novel challenges that arise throughout the process. The occupational therapist leads the application and refinement of a systematic, evidence-informed, and person-centred approach to environmental and home modifications within the team. The occupational therapist provides high-level consultation and mentorship to foundational and intermediate practitioners on

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
• Evaluation and selection of modification solutions. • Development of collaborative concept designs. • Implementation of agreed modification solutions. • Education and training. • Outcome evaluation. • Documentation.	and low-risk modification options, and can provide recommendations for minor modifications. The occupational therapist can create concept diagrams and builds the necessary documentation related to the modification process under supervision. The occupational therapist can provide education and training on the safe use of simple modifications and evaluate outcomes. The occupational therapist escalates more complex environmental modification needs to senior colleagues.	implementation of agreed modifications, provides tailored education and training on their use, and evaluates their effectiveness. The occupational therapist can engage with funding and governing bodies and can advocate for the needs of their client. The practitioner contributes to service improvement activities related to home modifications and supports less experienced practitioners in developing the skills and knowledge required to successfully complete the environmental and home modification process.	complex cases, promoting best practice. The occupational therapist often contributes to the development of service policies and may lead advocacy efforts to enhance access to appropriate environmental and home modifications at a service or systemic level.
2.4 Measurement of the environment The occupational therapist can objectively measure, describe and quantify the physical environment in a way that is relevant to the client's occupational performance and participation and safety and to	The occupational therapist can objectively measure basic features of an environment relevant to an individual's function and safety, under the supervision of more experienced practitioners. The occupational therapist learns to take accurate measurements of common	The occupational therapist can independently measure and objectively describe the environment to support the identification and design of tailored modification solutions. The occupational therapist accurately measures key environmental aspects, including	The occupational therapist demonstrates expert skills in objectively measuring, describing, and quantifying all aspects of the physical environment. The occupational therapist accurately measures all relevant environmental features, confidently calculates

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
provide a basis for effective and evidence-informed modification interventions. These skills include the ability to take accurate measurements of key environmental features, calculate gradients, ascertain carer and equipment footprints and to interpret these objective measurements against relevant standards, codes and guidelines.	environmental elements like doorway widths and surface heights. The occupational therapist begins to understand how to record these measurements and is introduced to interpreting them in relation to basic accessibility considerations. The occupational therapist seeks guidance when needing to calculate gradients or interpret measurements against specific standards or guidelines.	more complex dimensions like ramps and access points and can calculate gradients in common scenarios. The occupational therapist can interpret these objective measurements against commonly used access standards and guidelines to inform their understanding of environmental barriers and facilitators and supports less experienced practitioners in their development of these skills.	gradients, and expertly interprets these objective measurements against a comprehensive range of relevant standards, codes, and guidelines. The occupational therapist can apply this expertise to complex or non-standard environments and may guide less experienced practitioners in developing their environmental measurement skills.
2.5 Drawings and diagrams The occupational therapist develops their assessment findings using different formats to clearly and comprehensively represent proposed recommendations and solutions from conceptual drawings to scale diagrams. Practitioners appropriately select the best representation given their level of skill, context and client complexity however all drawings are clear,	The occupational therapist can create basic diagrams and drawings to represent their assessment findings and proposed recommendations for low complexity environmental and home modifications. Practitioners understand the distinction between concept drawings and scale diagrams and seek the support of senior practitioners to consider when each format, or when different tools	The occupational therapist can independently develop diagrams and drawings to represent assessment findings and proposed solutions. Practitioners can apply a range of approaches and tools to effectively communicate their recommendations. Practitioners are familiar with both digital and non-digital tools and collaborate with colleagues, such as designers or technical experts, to ensure the	The occupational therapist is experienced in creating detailed diagrams and drawings that clearly convey assessment findings, recommendations, and solutions for a range of complexities and scenarios. Practitioners can select the most appropriate format representing their clinical findings and can provide education to others on how to adopt and utilise a range of digital and non-digital tools.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
comprehensive and professionally presented. The practitioner determines the best digital and non-digital tools to use and may collaborate with others on the development of diagrams and drawings, giving appropriate professional acknowledgement when these are used. The responsibility for the decision making of conceptual drawings and ensuring the proposal is fit for purpose for the client rests with the occupational therapist and must be accompanied by a written guidance document with content tailored to the recipient.	and approaches, should be used to produce clear, accurate representations of their findings.	diagrams and drawings meet the needs of the client and stakeholders.	Practitioners can lead collaborative efforts with other professionals to produce high-quality designs that comprehensively reflect their clinical recommendations and support less experienced practitioners to build these skills.
2.6 Documentation The occupational therapist comprehensively documents all elements of the environmental and home modification process including:	The occupational therapist can develop basic reports that summarise assessment findings related to environmental and home design and occupational goals. Practitioners understand the importance of including goals set	The occupational therapist can independently develop concise and accurate reports that clearly communicate assessment findings, goals, and clinical reasoning. Practitioners include appropriate evidence to support	The occupational therapist is experienced in developing comprehensive reports that effectively highlight key assessment findings and how these will influence environmental and home design to support occupational goals.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
• Referral and screening information. • Consent, privacy and service agreements. • Assessment findings. • Clinical goals and recommendations set with the individual. • Clinical reasoning for recommendations made with reference to any supporting evidence to justify solutions identified. • Implementation plans and actions. • Guidance documentation for building professionals. • Funding applications and supporting documentation. • Post modification evaluations and outcome measurement.	with the client and clinical reasoning for recommendations in their documentation. Practitioners seek the support of senior practitioners to refine their documentation skills to ensure content is comprehensive and aligns with best practice standards.	recommendations for environmental and home modifications and set expectations for outcome measures in a format that supports the range of audiences receiving this content.	Practitioners can integrate well-structured clinical reasoning, supporting evidence, and detailed outcome measures into their documentation and provide support to less experienced practitioners to support their development of high-quality, evidence-based reports.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
• Correspondence between all stakeholders to articulate agreed actions and plans and to address any conflicts or disagreements regarding recommendations made including post occupancy sign off.			
2.7 Education and training The occupational therapist integrates education and training throughout their therapeutic process, from assessment and design through to handover and implementation. The occupational therapist works not only with the individual for whom the modifications have been assessed for, but their carers, family and significant others to ensure all stakeholders are informed of what to expect during the modification process, the expectations and requirements of funding bodies, how to work with the external building	The occupational therapist can incorporate education and training into their practice. Practitioners use education and training to build awareness and ensure that individuals and their families understand the goals of the modification and the steps to support the successful implementation of environmental and home modifications. Practitioners work closely with senior practitioners to identify and apply suitable approaches to educate clients, families, and other stakeholders in low complexity situations.	The occupational therapist take responsibility for educating clients, families, and other stakeholders, ensuring they understand the modification's goals, timelines, and the roles each party plays. Practitioners are skilled in addressing questions or concerns, explaining the role of external experts like builders or funding agencies, and ensuring that the necessary preparations are made for the implementation of modifications, ensuring that clients and their families feel supported and empowered throughout the process.	The occupational therapist is experienced in providing education and training to clients, families, caregivers, external experts and other practitioners ensuring that all stakeholders are thoroughly informed about the modification process and their roles in it. Practitioners support and guide less experienced practitioners in how to deliver education and training on environmental and home modifications and processes in lower complexity situations.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
experts during the works, temporary housing or care arrangements whilst works are undertaken and how to best utilise the modifications to ensure continued occupational performance and participation and safety.			
2.8 Post modification follow up Post modification evaluation is undertaken to review the expected change in occupational performance and participation and identify any unexpected impacts or difficulties. The occupational therapist undertakes a sight and sign off on work once completed and cross checks the construction against their guidance document and concept drawings to ensure works were completed as requested, have met the clinical goals, ensure works have been completed to a high standard and to address and mitigate any issues that need to be rectified in	Foundational practitioners assist senior practitioners with post-modification follow-up, learning how to assess whether modifications have been completed to a satisfactory standard. They may conduct basic checks, ensuring that the modifications are functional and meet the essential requirements. They support clients and families by identifying any issues and reporting them to senior practitioners for further resolution. Foundational practitioners may also help with documenting the completion of work and ensuring that all necessary	Intermediate practitioners take responsibility for conducting post-modification follow-up independently. They assess whether the modifications meet the intended purpose and support the client's goals, inspecting the quality of the work and identifying any potential issues. If discrepancies are found, they address these concerns with relevant parties, including contractors or funding bodies, ensuring any adjustments or corrections are made promptly. Intermediate practitioners may also collaborate with clients to monitor the effectiveness of the modifications	Senior practitioners oversee the post-modification follow-up process, ensuring that all modifications are completed to the highest standards and in compliance with regulatory requirements. They evaluate the outcomes of the modifications, ensuring that they meet the client's goals and have a positive impact on their occupational performance and participation. Senior practitioners also lead the process of addressing any issues that arise, ensuring that corrective actions are taken, and all stakeholders are informed. They guide and mentor junior practitioners in performing post-

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
accordance with funding and regulatory processes.	compliance standards are met under supervision.	and ensure continued occupational performance and participation and safety.	modification evaluations and ensure that any issues are resolved in a timely and efficient manner.
2.9 Outcome measures and goal evaluation[13] The occupational therapist uses a range of outcomes measure to review the achievement of goals set and to determine if the modifications successfully met their intended purpose and goals. The occupational therapist may collaborate with the client and their significant others over a period to monitor and evaluate the impacts and success of the modifications and to consider any future modification needs.	The occupational therapist can apply a range of outcome measures to assess the achievement of goals related to environmental and home modifications. Practitioners can use these tools to collect data on the effectiveness of environmental and home modifications and evaluate whether they have met the desired outcomes in low complexity situations. Practitioners seek the support of senior practitioners to ensure they are correctly applying and interpreting outcome measures in their practice to inform areas for attention or changes to clinical approaches and goals.	The occupational therapist can independently apply a variety of outcome measures to assess the effectiveness of modifications across a range of scenarios. Practitioners can analyse data on client progress and evaluate whether environmental and home modifications are meeting their intended goals and adjust their recommendations to optimise the effectiveness of environmental and home modification strategies. Practitioners work closely with clients, families, and other professionals, to evaluation if the changes have resulted in meaningful improvements in occupational performance and participation and quality of life.	The occupational therapist can use outcome measures to critically evaluate the success of environmental and home modification strategies across a range of contexts and complexities. Practitioners can use outcome measures to critically appraise the effectiveness of environmental and home modifications and apply the findings to ensure goals are met and maintained. Practitioners also support less experienced practitioners to use outcome measures effectively and ensure that practices are aligned with evidence based, best practice approaches.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
2.10 Communicating with others The occupational therapist can tailor their documentation to ensure effective communication with a range of stakeholders including the client, funding schemes, government authorities, and building professional. The practitioner ensures comprehensive documentation of communication between third parties such as building professionals and to clearly outline any legal or insurance requirements specific to the situation. The occupational therapist is responsible for ensuring that the performance criteria and standard to which the modification is required to be constructed to achieve the functional outcome for the client is comprehensively articulated in additional documentation, usually in the form of a guidance document. Documentation must cross reference information from	The occupational therapist begins to tailor their documentation regarding environmental and home modifications to communicate effectively with a range of stakeholders. Practitioners begin to recognise the need to adjust their reports based on the audience, such as clients, funding bodies, or building professionals and seek support from senior practitioners to ensure that documentation comprehensively communicates the key information required.	The occupational therapist can consistently adapt their documentation to communicate clearly and effectively with various stakeholders, including clients, funding schemes, government authorities, and building professionals. Practitioners ensure that their documentation effectively communicates the information required by the designated audience whilst being clear, concise, accessible and actionable.	The occupational therapist can tailor their communication to diverse stakeholders, ensuring that documentation is both comprehensive and precise. Practitioners are experienced in documenting complex presentations and scenarios to a range of audiences. Practitioners can support less experienced practitioners on best practices for effective, professional communication and ensure that all documentation supports collaboration and decision-making across multiple parties.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
conceptual drawings and include details that support the occupational performance and participation and functional needs of the individual, including details of fittings and fixtures and measurements.			
2.11 Representation and conflicts of interest[14] The occupational therapist represents the needs of the individual to ensure they receive the funding and services required, and that services appointed follow the clinical recommendations made and are executed as instructed. The occupational therapist may need to provide case management for the individual to assist them in accessing the support they require to achieve prescribed environmental and home modifications. The occupational therapist adheres to relevant professional standards and guidelines when engaging and	The occupational therapist begins to build their skills in representing for clients to ensure they receive the services they need. Practitioners are supported by senior practitioners in providing coordination or case management to low complexity scenario and seek the support of senior practitioners to identify resources and services that can support clients in navigating systems and to address any identified conflicts of interest.	The occupational therapist can independently advocate for clients and ensure they receive the necessary services. Practitioners can coordinate care, working with key stakeholders involved in the client's care plan to ensure alignment of clinical recommendations. Practitioners assist clients in navigating complex service systems, supporting them in obtaining resources, and ensuring that third parties comply with clinical recommendations to meet assessed needs.	The occupational therapist can actively participate in and lead advocacy efforts for clients, ensuring that their needs are met across a range of services. Practitioners can support the delivery of complex care plans, collaborating with a wide range of professionals to ensure that services are delivered effectively. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners to develop skills in advocacy and case management for low complexity scenarios.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
coordinating others to avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest.			
2.12 Continuing professional development The occupational therapist furthers their clinical practice by regularly reflecting on their skills and knowledge to inform engagement in ongoing professional development. The practitioner regularly reflects on their own capability and skill set to ensure they are continually working within their competencies and seeks support and supervision as required. The practitioner actively participates in further education and training based on their identified areas for growth.	The occupational therapist seeks out and completes clinical and professional development that draws on best available evidence and supports the development of their competencies and clinical outcomes relating to environmental and home modifications. Practitioners use supervision to support their professional development goals and the identification of future capability development.	The occupational therapist can competently identify their clinical and professional development needs and training and education opportunities to address their professional development goals around environmental and home modifications. Practitioners can supervise students or less experienced staff to identify and implement clinical professional development goals and plans related to their work with environmental and home modifications.	The occupational therapist has extensive experience in tailoring their clinical and professional development goals and in identifying higher level training, education and skill development opportunities. Practitioners may deliver professional development, education and training opportunities on environmental and home modifications to further the professional skills and knowledge of the broader profession.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
2.13 Clinical supervision The occupational therapist understands the role of clinical supervision as a means of developing and enhancing their own practice and that of the occupational therapists they supervise, is familiar with professional models of supervision and understands the role of reflective practice, evaluation, and feedback. The practitioner understands the value of lived experience supervision and actively seeks this where possible. The practitioner understands the important difference between supervision, shadowing, training and mentoring and supports not only the development of technical skills aligned with the environmental and home modifications process but the professional and, where relevant, management and leadership skills required for their role.	The occupational therapist participates in supervision and begins to develop their understanding of supervision models and approaches. Practitioners use supervision to support their professional development across all capability development areas and supplements their supervision with practitioner led shadowing and training wherever possible. The practitioner takes a proactive approach to their supervision and uses these opportunities to develop a range of clinical, technical and professional skills to build their proficiency in environmental and home modifications.	The occupational therapist has expanded their understanding of supervision models and approaches and actively uses supervision as part of their own development and practice. Practitioners can supervise students or less experienced staff, implementing appropriate models and approaches including demonstration of skills and coaching, and providing guidance to less experienced staff about how to use supervision in their own development. Practitioners engage regularly in supervision and seek the support of senior practitioners to guide their professional and technical skill development.	The occupational therapist can provide supervision to intermediate and senior staff, drawing on extensive experience and supervision training. Practitioners support occupational therapists requiring additional professional support and supervision and provide support and coaching to less experienced and intermediate practitioners, educating them on the features of discipline-led supervision models. Practitioners also seek regular supervision and mentoring to expand their knowledge and skills.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
Domain 3: Assessment of factors for consideration in the design of environmental and home modifications	All occupational therapists require the ability to identify and administer a range of assessment tools, checklists and frameworks to best assess the person, occupation and environmental and home needs of an individual. These may include formal and structured assessments through to self-reported checklists which may be particularly relevant in remote services provision scenarios. The practitioner can determine the most appropriate tool to facilitate a person-centred approach to the identification and prioritisation of key environmental and home issues impacting occupational performance and participation whilst taking into consideration a range of other factors related to the individual, their occupational performance and participation goals, their care requirements and circumstances as well as the environmental and home circumstances. Occupational therapists should be able to critically appraise the use of an assessment tool and aim to develop and expand their assessment capabilities at all career stages.		
3.1 Occupational performance and participation The occupational therapist can determine when and how to use a range of assessment tools, both standardised and non-standardised, to safely assess occupational performance and participation parameters underpinning the goals for the individual to fully participate in required and desired daily activities, to assess communication and interaction skills, define support required to allow the individual to achieve optimal functional	The occupational therapist develops the ability to use a variety of assessment tools, both standardised and non-standardised to assess occupational performance and participation parameters in low complexity situations. Practitioners are supported by more senior practitioners to build their understanding of how analyse and apply the findings from occupational performance and participation assessments to their clinical reasoning for lower complexity situations.	The occupational therapist can utilise a broad range of assessment tools independently, applying analytical skills to assess more complex occupational performance and participation scenarios. Practitioners can use their knowledge and experience to consider the intersection of different areas of function to evaluate the need for support and make informed decisions regarding environmental and home modifications based on assessed needs.	Senior practitioners have expert proficiency in selecting and using a wide range of assessment tools across a range of circumstances including complex cases. Practitioners are proficient in evaluating and critiquing occupational performance and participation and the environmental and home elements that may be supportive or prohibitive. Practitioners lead work in the development of processes that ensure comprehensive occupational performance and participation and

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
performance, understand the potential for development or loss of skills to inform clinical decision making regarding environmental and home modifications.			analysis when considering environmental and home modifications and support less experienced practitioners in their practice.
3.2 Physical and anthropometric assessment[15] The occupational therapist uses their knowledge of physiology, anatomy and physical function to conduct appropriate assessments or screening tools, and potentially the use of targeted physical and anthropometric assessments, to better consider the interplay of environmental and home elements and physical function and form on occupational performance and participation goals The practitioner also adopts an awareness of the impact of bariatric presentation or changing presentations associated	The occupational therapist has a foundational knowledge of physiology, anatomy, and physical function and applies when conducting physical assessments under the guidance of senior practitioners. They use a range of simple screening tools and begin to implement structured and standardised assessments where applicable and supported to do so. Practitioners can use these assessments to understand the impact of environmental and home and physical factors on occupational performance and participation in less complex situations.	The occupational therapist is capable of independently administering a range of standardised and non-standardised physical and anthropometric assessments, applying more analytical reasoning to complex cases. Practitioners can assess and evaluate how changing presentations may influence the assessment pathway and the occupational performance and participation needs of an individual.	Senior practitioners can deliver comprehensive physical assessments across a range of complex clinical scenarios, integrating a deep understanding of anatomy and function. Practitioners can lead the development of assessment pathways ensuring the integration of best practice and evidence, and support less experienced practitioners in applying and refining these skills.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
with growth or progression of a condition in their assessment.			
3.3 Functional mobility The occupational therapist can assess an individual's functional mobility requirements for participation in meaningful occupations and can adopt a range of approaches to support the comprehensive assessment of the individual considering the presenting conditions impacting functional mobility, the potential development or loss or mobility over time, and the environment in which the functional mobility is being performed.	The occupational therapist develops skills to assess functional mobility by utilising a range of non-complex assessment approaches to evaluate the functional mobility presentation and needs of an individual. Practitioners begin to consider the environmental and home factors that may affect mobility and function and seek support from more experienced practitioners to implement appropriate assessments and analyse their findings.	The occupational therapist can independently assess functional mobility in a range of conditions and environments. They can identify and evaluate how mobility influences daily activities, considering both the current and potential future mobility needs of the individual. Practitioners adopt a person-centred approach and, when appropriate, refer clients to other professionals to ensure a comprehensive assessment process.	The occupational therapist is highly skilled in assessing complex functional mobility needs across diverse conditions and environments. Practitioners adopt a comprehensive approach to assessment, considering a wide range of factors that affect mobility and occupation and the potential for future functional decline. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners in their functional mobility assessments and analysis of findings.
3.4 Sensory assessment The occupational therapist understands how to carry out a range of age-appropriate sensory assessments to better understand	The occupational therapist builds skills in the administration of sensory assessments to identify sensory needs in lower complexity scenarios. Practitioners seek support from more	The occupational therapist can independently carry out a range of sensory assessments and interpret findings to evaluate sensory issues in diverse client populations.	The occupational therapist has expert proficiency in conducting comprehensive sensory assessments across age groups and complex conditions. Practitioners

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
underlying sensory issues and sensitivities that the environment may cause. The occupational therapist can apply these assessment findings to consider the environmental and home factors that may impact the sensory needs of the individual and environmental and home changes that supports optimal sensory environments and sensory performance.	experienced practitioners to analyse their assessment findings and consider them against environmental and home factors that may be influencing the sensory presentation.	Practitioners can analyse how sensory needs and presentations may influence occupational performance and participation apply their findings to recommend environmental and home changes or adaptations that address sensory challenges and support optimal participation in meaningful activities.	can integrate sensory assessment findings with their comprehensive understanding of the environment and use this analysis to develop strategies that promote sensory enabling environments. Practitioners support the development of less experienced practitioners through the application of best practice approaches in sensory assessment.
3.5 Psychosocial assessment The occupational therapist plays a key role in the assessment of an individual's unmet needs that may be contributing to behavioural symptoms of their cognitive, physical, or psychological impairments. The occupational therapist adopts an occupation-focused and holistic approach to their assessment of behaviours and considers the impact of	The occupational therapist builds an understanding of the psychosocial factors contributing to behavioural symptoms associated with cognitive, physical, or psychological impairments. Under the guidance of more senior practitioners, the occupational therapist the consider the environmental and home influences on behaviour and analyse their findings to better understand unmet needs in lower complexity scenarios.	The occupational therapist can independently assess psychosocial needs and behavioural symptoms, considering both cognitive and environmental and home factors. Practitioners apply an occupation-focused, holistic approach to assessing the impact of the environment on psychosocial presentation and can comprehensively analyse their assessment findings to support their	The occupational therapist has expertise in conducting comprehensive psychosocial assessments, considering a wide range of cognitive, physical, and psychological factors contributing to behavioural symptoms and the impact of environmental and home and occupation-based factors. Practitioners lead in designing and implementing processes and systems that support the delivery of evidence based best practice

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
environmental and home factors on presenting behaviours.		clinical reasoning for the delivery of targeted interventions.	approaches in assessing psychosocial needs and support less experienced practitioners to develop their psychosocial assessment skills and knowledge.
3.6 Cognitive and functional cognition assessment The occupational therapist uses appropriate cognitive assessments to support information gathering and assessment to understand the impact of environmental and home modifications. The practitioner considers both eh current and future cognitive performance needs of the individual in their assessment.	The occupational therapist understands how cognitive impairments affect occupational performance and participation and develops skills to assess how environmental and home factors influence cognitive functioning. Practitioners can use basic cognitive assessments in less complex situations and seek the guidance of senior practitioners to use more complex cognitive assessment tools and to interpret assessment results.	The occupational therapist is capable of independently conducting a range of cognitive and functional cognition assessments. Practitioners apply these assessments to gather information on how cognitive impairments impact daily activities and how environmental and home changes can facilitate or hinder cognitive performance. Practitioners critically analyse results to support their clinical reasoning around interventions that address both cognitive and environmental and home needs.	The occupational therapist can expertly administer comprehensive cognitive and functional cognition assessments across a range of scenarios and complexities. Practitioners can critically analyse how cognitive impairments interact with various environmental and home factors to establish their rationale for environmental and home modifications to optimise functional cognition and occupational performance and participation. Practitioners guide less experienced practitioners in their approach to cognitive and functional cognition assessment and on integrating the findings from cognitive assessments into

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
			occupation-focused environmental and home interventions.
3.7 Social, family and Carer requirements[9, 16, 17] The occupational therapist considers the social, family and carer circumstances of the individual and their right to choose whom they live with. The practitioner takes these factors into consideration when looking at the environmental and home changes to ensure others using the space are safe and able to do so as required. Consideration of shared environments as well as the occupational health and safety requirements of employed staff must be taken when designing environmental and home modifications.	The occupational therapist builds an ability to recognise the social, family, and carer circumstances that impact an individual's occupational needs. Practitioners understand the importance of considering a range of interpersonal and relationship factors when considering an individual's environmental and home modification needs. Practitioners seek the guidance of more senior practitioners when considering basic safety and functionality for all individuals using the environment.	The occupational therapist can competently assess the social, family, and carer dynamics influencing the individual's environment. Practitioners are adept at evaluating the individual's choices around living arrangements and can integrate these factors into their assessment and evaluation. Practitioners are also experienced at considering the safety and accessibility needs of all parties using the environment, including the occupational health and safety requirements of employed staff.	The occupational therapist has expertise when assessing the complex social, family, and carer dynamics that may influence their clinical reasoning and prescription of environmental and home modifications and ensure their assessment takes into consideration the needs of all stakeholders impacted by the environment. Practitioners are instrumental in building and evaluating best practice processes that support comprehensive assessment pathways and support less experienced practitioners to build their skills in this area.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
3.8 Manual handling The occupational therapist comprehensively understands and assesses the person's occupational performance and participation in the context of their movement patterns, mobility, transfer and self-care routines, including the assessment of environmental and home, care support needs and routines, caregiver needs, anthropometrics, equipment dimensions, using a risk assessment framework as is current best practice according to the practitioner's own state/territory based hazardous manual handling legislation. The occupational therapist correctly identifies the environmental and home barriers and modifications required to mitigate risks and communications recommendations effectively with a range of stakeholders	The occupational therapist develops their ability to assess manual handling needs, beginning to recognise the importance of considering the physical, cognitive, and environmental and home factors that impact safe movement and manual handling. Practitioners seek the guidance of more senior practitioners and experts in manual handling equipment to identify basic modifications that address safety and occupational performance and participation needs in low complexity clients.	The occupational therapist independently and comprehensively assesses the manual handling needs of individuals covering the various factors that may influence safety and occupational performance and participation. Practitioners work collaboratively with key stakeholders, including experts in assistive technology and manual handling equipment, to ensure recommended environmental and home modifications address the manual handling needs of all key stakeholders. Practitioners apply a more analytical approach to complex cases, considering the full range of needs.	The occupational therapist is experienced in assessing complex manual handling requirements across a wide range of conditions and circumstances. Practitioners provide leadership and clinical expertise across multidisciplinary teams, working with clinical and assistive technology experts in complex cases. Practitioners ensure that all modifications meet the safety and functional needs of the individual and other key stakeholders and supervise less experienced practitioners in their application, and analysis, of manual handling assessments.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
3.9 Assessment of assistive technologies[18] The occupational therapist considers the current and emergent assistive technology needs of the individual, their manner of safe operation, circulation space, storage and charging (if appropriate) and ensures this is appropriately incorporated into the recommended modifications so these items can be used.	The occupational therapist builds an understanding of the relationship between assistive technology and environmental and home modifications. Practitioners learn to assess the individual's current and potential future assistive technology needs in low complexity situations. Practitioners seek the guidance of assistive technology suppliers and senior practitioners to assess for assistive technology and environmental and home solutions in low complexity cases.	The occupational therapist can independently assess and recommend appropriate assistive technologies, goods, and equipment based on the individual's needs and evaluate how these items can be used effectively within the environment. The practitioner uses their knowledge and experience to collaborate with experts in assistive technology, other health professionals and key stakeholders to ensure that environmental and home modifications optimise the use and integration of both current and future assistive technologies.	The occupational therapist is experienced in assessing and recommending tailored assistive technologies, goods, and equipment for individuals with complex needs and in complex environmental and home settings. Practitioners have a sound knowledge of contemporary assistive technologies and how these can be integrated into different environments to support occupational performance and participation and safety. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners to build their skills in assessing for assistive technology solutions and matching those with different environmental and home contexts for low complexity clients.
3.10 Assessing the environment[16] The occupational therapist can assess the distinct features of the environment to support their analysis	The occupational therapist understands how various environmental and home elements, such as building type and cultural	The occupational therapist is confident in the delivery of a range of environmental and home assessment tools to evaluate how	The occupational therapist is experienced in conducting comprehensive environmental and home assessments across diverse

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
and design of modification solutions. The occupational therapist considers a range of factors including: • Built environs vs natural environs. • The type and classification of the building. • The type of building construction. • The natural elements that the environment/building may be exposed to. • The cultural and social use of the environment. • The geographical setting of the environment (i.e. Urban vs. Rural). • Other users of the environment. • The suitability and viability of the environment to be modified. The practitioner can identify the environmental risk factors that may affect occupational performance, participation and safety for the	use, can impact occupational performance and participation. Practitioners apply this awareness when selecting and using environmental and home assessment tools and seek the support of more senior practitioners when considering the most appropriate assessment tools for different settings and complexity scenarios. Practitioners are building skills in gathering, analysing and applying the findings from their assessment, including considerations around risk factors, to inform clinical reasoning and seek the support of senior practitioners for more complex situations.	different environmental and home factors influence occupational performance and participation. Practitioners can comprehensively consider a broader range of factors that influence their selection of environmental and home assessments balancing the expectations of funding bodies, the context of the environment, users of the environment and any suitability and viability issues. The practitioner can autonomously gather all relevant information needed to comprehensively assess the environment, including the identification of environmental risk factors, and applies this to their analysis and clinical reasoning.	settings and can draw on their advanced knowledge of various assessment tools that address a range of complex factors. Practitioners can lead the engagement of interdisciplinary teams needed to assess the environment, working collaboratively with relevant stakeholders to ensure a broad range of views are incorporated into the assessment to ensure solutions are both viable and effective. Practitioners provide supervision and support to less experienced practitioners in applying these approaches, in gathering the required information and in analysing their findings to support their clinical reasoning.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
individual and their carers/significant others and take these into consideration when analysing the environment and possible modification solutions.			
3.11 Barriers to environmental and home modifications[19, 20] The occupational therapist takes a holistic approach to understanding any potential barriers to environmental and home modification. These factors may be related to: • Personal factors (like psychological, financial, personal preferences or property tenure); • Societal factors (like attitudinal, institutional and workforce barriers); • Policy factors (like heritage listing and funding restrictions);	The occupational therapist can identify basic barriers to environmental and home modifications, including personal factors such as financial constraints, preferences, and property tenure. Practitioners begin to recognise the broader external factors, such as environmental and home suitability and regional considerations, that may impact modification decisions and seek guidance from senior practitioners to understand how to navigate these barriers and apply solutions in low complexity scenarios.	The occupational therapist can independently assess and analyse a broader range of barriers to environmental and home modifications, including personal factors, such as psychological and financial influences, and external factors, including property issues, heritage listings, and regional limitations. Practitioners can balance the cost-benefit of modifications and collaborate with stakeholders to develop strategies that address these barriers, ensuring that solutions are practical and sustainable	The occupational therapist possesses advanced expertise in identifying and addressing complex barriers to environmental and home modifications. Practitioners consider personal, environmental and home, and extraneous factors such as risk of environmental and home disasters, workforce availability and regional challenges in their assessment and seek the views of relevant stakeholders and experts. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners in navigating these challenges and designing solutions.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
• Physical factors (like the suitability of the environment to be modified and the cost benefit of the modification); • Environmental factors (like risk of natural disasters or extreme conditions, regionality).			
3.12 Risk assessment – site visits The occupational therapist is familiar with the risks associated with conducting environmental and home assessments and follows relevant work, health and safety procedures to protect themselves and others. The practitioner adopts a range of models or approaches to complete a comprehensive risk assessment based on a range of information sources and factors both prior to and during each onsite visit. The practitioner records and reviews the identified risks and mitigation	The occupational therapist can identify and manage basic risks associated with conducting environmental and home assessments. Practitioners seek the support of senior practitioners to consider the relevant guidelines and factors that supports comprehensive identification and documentation of risks, with support in reviewing and implementing mitigation strategies.	The occupational therapist can independently conduct comprehensive risk assessments, applying a variety of models and approaches to assess risks in the environment. Practitioners gather and evaluate multiple sources of information both before and during the onsite assessment, ensuring they follow relevant procedures. Practitioners can competently document and review identified risks, adjusting plans as necessary throughout the clinical process.	The occupational therapist can conduct complex risk assessments in diverse environments. Practitioners can apply advanced risk assessment approaches, integrating a wide range of information sources to evaluate risks thoroughly. Practitioners ensure that all relevant protocols are followed, and they take a proactive role in managing and mitigating risks both for themselves and for the less experienced practitioners they are supervising or managing.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
strategies implemented throughout the clinical journey.			
3.13 Risk assessment – external parties The occupational therapist has a responsibility to critically appraise/assess the suitability of those partnering on the design and implementation of the environmental and home modifications the works are done to a high quality, meet applicable Codes and standards and address the needs of the individual in accordance with clinical recommendations made.	The occupational therapist begins to develop the skills necessary to assess and evaluate the suitability of external parties involved in environmental and home modifications. Practitioners recognise the importance of their role in ensuring modifications meet standards and address the needs of the individual factors. Practitioners seek support from senior practitioners to assess criteria such as the quality of work and compliance with codes in low complexity scenarios and when working with external contractors or professionals.	The occupational therapist can independently assess and critically appraise external parties involved in environmental and home modifications. Practitioners ensure that modifications are completed to high standards, meet required codes, and align with clinical recommendations. Practitioners work with contractors or other professionals to ensure that the modifications address the individual's needs, while considering quality, safety, and compliance.	The occupational therapist can expertly evaluate and manage external partnerships involved in environmental and home modifications. Practitioners can critically appraise external parties to ensure their suitability for the work, ability to meet applicable Codes and standards, and delivery on clinical recommendations. Practitioners can develop clinical guidelines and procedures to support best practice approaches when working with external parties and support less experienced practitioners mentoring junior practitioners to build these skills.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
Domain 4: Occupational-focused interventions and outcome measures for environmental and home modifications	The occupational therapist is critical in supporting the design and development of environments that allow individuals to engage in their meaningful occupations both domestically and in the community. The occupational therapist adopts a range of environmental and home and occupational focussed interventions and strategies to ensure all environments the individual engages in enables the achievement of occupational performance and participation goals. The occupational therapist will endeavour to apply the simplest and most cost-effective solutions that best incorporate the modification into the home setting and meet the clinical needs of the person. The occupational therapist understands the impact private domestic and public shared spaces have on the requirements for application of the Australian Standards and other building regulations and applies these accordingly. Occupational therapists should be familiar with a range of goals setting and outcomes measures available to evaluate their clinical decision making and approaches to environmental and home modification.		
4.1 Building access[12] The occupational therapist considers a range of possible access solutions against the individual circumstances and occupational performance and participation goals of the individual. Solutions may include doorway and door opening modifications, approach to a building/entry, ramps, banister rails, step modifications and powered systems like lifts. The practitioner is cognisant of the need to comply with funding authorities, applicable building codes and	The occupational therapist can evaluate and apply basic building access solutions in relation to the individual's needs and occupational performance and participation goals under the guidance of a senior practitioner. Practitioners understand the importance of compliance with funding authorities, building codes, and standards and seeks the support of senior practitioners to ensure recommendations align with these requirements.	The occupational therapist can independently assess and recommend a range of building access solutions based on the individual's specific circumstances and occupational goals. Practitioners can evaluate and recommend options that offer both static and dynamic interaction with the individual to enhance accessibility. Practitioners ensure their recommendations comply with relevant building codes, funding criteria, and standards, particularly	The occupational therapist is experienced in evaluating and implementing complex building access solutions tailored to individual needs. Practitioners can address a range of access challenges using a variety of solutions that involve non-structural and structural changes whilst ensuring compliance with funding authorities, building codes, and standards. Practitioners can design and recommend access solutions, taking input from other professionals

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
standards for environmental and home modification recommendations to common areas or shared care environments.		when working in environments where others are interacting with the environmental and home modification.	and stakeholders accordingly. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners to build their skills in identifying and recommending suitable solutions in low complexity scenarios.
4.2 Bathroom and self-care environments The occupational therapist applies a range of environmental and home strategies that supports the self-care occupational performance and participation needs of individuals. Possible solutions will consider the need to use assistive technology or for support from others.	The occupational therapist can assess and apply basic environmental and home strategies to support self-care needs in low complexity scenarios. Practitioners take consideration of assistive technology and care needs when designing their recommendations and seek guidance from senior practitioners to review their clinical reasoning and recommendations against relevant standards and compliance requirements.	The occupational therapist can independently assess and implement a range of environmental and home strategies to support self-care occupational performance and participation. Practitioners ensure that modifications align with the individual's needs, promoting safety, dignity, and independence in self-care occupations and seeks input from other experts and stakeholders to guide their clinical reasoning and recommendations as required.	The occupational therapist is experienced in designing and implementing comprehensive environmental and home solutions for bathroom and self-care environments for a wide range of self-care needs and complexities. Practitioners partner with a range of other professionals and stakeholders to ensure the environmental and home modification solutions comprehensively address the needs of the individual now and into the future. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners in their development of skills and knowledge in this area.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
4.3 Kitchen or food preparation environments The occupational therapist configures domestic meal preparation or dining environments to support an individual's occupational performance and participation and nutritional needs. Solutions may support the need for assistive technology and for carer support.	The occupational therapist can apply basic modifications for kitchen and dining environments, considering the individual's needs for meal preparation and nutritional support in low complexity scenarios. Practitioners take consideration of assistive technology and care needs when designing their recommendations and seek guidance from senior practitioners to review their clinical reasoning and recommendations against relevant standards and compliance requirements.	The occupational therapist can comprehensively assess kitchen and food preparation environments, recommending modifications that enhance independence and support the individual's occupational performance and participation and nutritional goals. Practitioners collaborate with other building and assistive technology professionals where necessary and consider the needs of carers and others using this space in their recommendations.	The occupational therapist can provide tailored recommendations on the design of kitchen and dining environments addressing a range of settings and complexities. Practitioners partner with a range of other professionals and stakeholders to ensure recommendations enhance independence and safety whilst ensuring individual preferences and needs are also met. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners to build their skills and knowledge in this area.
4.4 Laundry environments The occupational therapist considers the occupational performance and participation and personal preferences of the individual to support laundry or related activities with and without the support of others.	The occupational therapist considers the laundry environment and can identify basic modifications that address personal preferences and occupational performance and participation needs in low complexity scenarios. Practitioners seek the support of senior practitioners to support their clinical reasoning and	The occupational therapist is proficient in recommending modifications to laundry environments, considering personal preferences and the need for support. Practitioners make recommendations that increase autonomy or improve the ease of completing laundry related tasks and	The occupational therapist is experienced in recommending modifications to laundry environments, particularly in complex scenarios. Practitioners consider individual needs, preferences, and safety when designing solutions, ensuring the modifications support independence

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
	recommendations for simple modifications to enhance accessibility and independence in laundry tasks.	seeks the guidance of building and other professionals as warranted.	and integrate assistive technologies or carer support where necessary. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners to build their skills and knowledge in this area.
4.5 Bedrooms The occupational therapist understands the importance of configuring the bedroom environment to support a range of occupational roles and occupational performance and participation goals.	The occupational therapist understands the importance of the bedroom environment in supporting a range of occupational roles and goals. Practitioners can provide recommendations for basic environmental and home modifications of the bedroom environment that support functionality and independence, with support from senior practitioners.	The occupational therapist can independently assess and recommend modifications to bedroom environments to support a person's occupational roles and goals. Practitioners consider various factors such as accessibility, safety, comfort, individual preferences and care needs. Practitioners ensure recommendations address clinical and individual goals and seek the guidance of building and other professionals as warranted.	The occupational therapist is skilled in designing and recommending comprehensive modifications for bedroom environments that address diverse occupational roles and performance goals, particularly with complex presentations. Practitioners consider a wide range of factors to optimise the environment and how the use of other technologies and devices may need to be integrated. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners to build their skills and knowledge in bedroom modification.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
4.6 Social and communal environments (e.g. Living rooms) The occupational therapist understands the importance of having shared social or communal settings that support social engagement, occupational performance and participation, and meet the safety and wellbeing needs of individuals and their significant others.	The occupational therapist can recognise the importance of social and communal spaces in supporting engagement and wellbeing. In low complexity scenarios, practitioners can provide recommendations on basic environmental and home modifications under the guidance of senior practitioners and seek their support to ensure compliance with standards and frameworks that relate to these environments.	The occupational therapist can independently assess and recommend modifications to social and communal environments to enhance social engagement, occupational performance and participation, and safety. Practitioners engage with a range of stakeholders to ensure these spaces support individuals' interactions with others and that modifications meet the safety and wellbeing needs of all use the space.	The occupational therapist has expertise in designing modifications for social and communal environments that promote optimal social engagement, performance, and safety. Practitioners are proficient in addressing the needs of individuals and significant others particularly in high complexity situations. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners to build their skills and knowledge in this area.
4.7 Shared care spaces The occupational therapist considers both the individual needs and the needs of others when considering modifications to shared spaces and involves the other parties in the design of the shared care environments including the carers, those receiving care and any other parties using the space. The practitioner is cognisant of the need	The occupational therapist can consider the use of shared care spaces, considering the needs of both the individual receiving care and others using the space. Practitioners seek the support of senior practitioners to guide their clinical reasoning and recommendations regarding modification to shared care environments and the application of	The occupational therapist can independently evaluate shared care spaces and recommend modifications that consider the impact of environmental and home changes on everyone using the shared space. Practitioners work with relevant professionals, stakeholders and authorities to support their clinical reasoning and recommendations and ensure that	The occupational therapist has expertise in evaluating and recommending modifications for shared care spaces, addressing the needs of both the individual and others involved. Practitioners can coordinate and lead a shared design process with other professionals and stakeholders to ensure comprehensive recommendations that create optimal shared

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
to comply with funding authorities, applicable building codes and standards for environmental and home modifications recommendations to common areas or shared care environments.	building codes and funding guidelines when recommending these modifications.	these spaces comply with applicable Codes and standards.	environments whilst meeting compliance requirements. Practitioners guide and support less experienced practitioners in this area to support their skill development.
4.8 Schools, learning environments, workplaces and community settings The Occupational Therapist identifies the need for modifications to support the individual's access and engagement in learning and vocational roles. While the OT collaborates closely with the individual, family, relevant staff, building consultants, and funding bodies, the responsibility for designing and prescribing these modifications ultimately lies with an access and design consultant. The design must comply with relevant public access standards and	The occupational therapist works under the direct guidance of the senior practitioner when considering modifications in schools, workplaces, and community settings to support access and engagement. Practitioners understand the role of the OT in these modifications and the need to defer to senior practitioners and building consultants on these types of works.	The occupational therapist can independently assess and identify modifications required to support engagement in learning or vocational roles. Practitioners collaborate with various stakeholders and provide their practitioner insights and recommendations to building consultants who ultimately take responsibility for the design and prescription of these modifications and their compliance with public access standards.	The occupational therapist can provide their expertise to support the design of modifications for schools, workplaces, and community settings that support access and participation. Practitioners can work collaboratively with building and access consultants to ensure the modifications represent the functional and occupational performance and participation needs of the individual whilst balancing the needs of other users of the space. Practitioners educate less experienced practitioners on the process required to modify public spaces and the role occupational therapists have in these types of

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
accommodate the needs of all who use the environment.			environmental and home modifications.
4.9 Natural environments The occupational therapist considers the need for modifications to the natural environment surrounding a person's home to meet their occupational performance and participation and functional goals and the various factors associated with this environment that may influence their clinical recommendations such as rural vs. Urban settings, terrain, altitude, weather and air quality, light and sounds.	The occupational therapist recognises the importance of natural environments in supporting occupational performance and participation and wellbeing. Practitioners can consider ways to support participation and meaningful engagement through basic environmental and home modifications in low complexity situations with the support of a senior practitioners. Practitioners seek guidance from senior colleagues to evaluate their clinical reasoning against various factors that may influence their recommendations.	The occupational therapist can independently and comprehensively assess the natural environment surrounding a person's home, considering modifications to meet occupational performance and participation goals and safety needs. Practitioners evaluate how factors such as terrain, weather, and sound influence the individual's use of the environment and develop practical strategies to improve accessibility.	The occupational therapist is skilled in evaluating and recommending modifications to natural environments, considering complex personal and environmental and home factors like rural vs. Urban settings, terrain, and environmental and home conditions and recommend a wider range of solutions that support occupational performance and participation and wellbeing. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners to build their capabilities around modification to natural environments.
4.10 Outdoor domestic spaces The occupational therapist understands the importance of	The occupational therapist understands the importance of access to outdoor spaces such as patios, balconies, and pool areas to	The occupational therapist can comprehensively assess and recommend modifications to outdoor domestic spaces, ensuring the	The occupational therapist is experienced in designing and recommending modifications for outdoor domestic spaces,

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
having access to outdoor spaces, the various types of outdoor spaces that a person may utilise in a domestic setting such as patios, balconies, pool areas and the relevant standards and guidelines that apply to the design and modification of these environments. The occupational therapist also considers modifications that support a connection to nature and natural elements wherever possible (Biophilic design).	support engagement in meaningful occupation. Practitioners are guided by senior practitioners when considering how these spaces can be modified and in reviewing their application of guidelines and standards to their clinical reasoning and recommendations.	spaces are functional, accessible, and safe. Practitioners apply the relevant standards and guidelines to their clinical reasoning and recommendations and can design modifications that support the individual's occupational performance and participation goals.	considering a broad range of factors and guidelines. Practitioners work with a range of professionals to ensure that modifications align with the individual's goals while adhering to standards and regulations and support the development of skills and knowledge in less experienced practitioners.
4.11 Environmental and home controls and home automation[21] The occupational therapist can consider the benefits of and, in some circumstances, recommend a range of home automation technology to remotely control or automate various household functions such as doors, doorbells and intercom systems, windows, heating and cooling, blinds, lighting, and entertainment	The occupational therapist has an emerging understanding of the role of environmental and home controls and home automation in supporting independence. Practitioners start to explore basic technologies and systems, learning how to integrate these into their clinical reasoning and recommendations for low complexity scenarios under the guidance of senior practitioners.	The occupational therapist can independently assess and implement a range of home automation technologies including hard-wired and portable automation, including the use of SMART technologies, to improve autonomy and safety. The practitioner considers in their recommendations the use of technologies that enable the future adaptability of the home	The occupational therapist has expertise in identifying and implementing complex environmental and home controls and home automation technologies. Practitioners ensure that systems are integrated effectively to enhance independence, safety, and comfort. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners to build their knowledge and application of

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
systems to support independence and autonomy. Practitioners can appraise both hard-wired and portable home automation technologies when designing modification solutions to address identified functional goals. Practitioners may refer on to other professionals and occupational therapists with expertise in this space or seek the input of building professionals when designing spaces that will allow for the future integration of these technologies.		and the ability for future technological integration to support the changing needs of the individual.	environmental and home controls and home automation.
4.12 Assistive technology[17] The occupational therapist understands the interplay between assistive technology and environmental and home modifications and how to consider the current and potential future assistive technology needs of the individual in the design of any environmental and home	The occupational therapist can understand how different technologies and equipment support occupational performance and participation and how the environment may need to be adapted to ensure their effective use. Practitioners seek guidance from senior practitioners and assistive technology suppliers and experts to	The occupational therapist can independently assess the individual's assistive technology needs and integrate these into their clinical reasoning and recommendations for environmental and home modifications. Practitioners evaluate both current and potential future assistive technology needs to ensure that the	The occupational therapist is experienced in integrating assistive technology into environmental and home modifications, providing advanced solutions and strategies to maximise independence and functionality, particularly in complex scenarios. Practitioners provide leadership and guidance to interdisciplinary teams on

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
modifications. The practitioner considers the use of assistive technology as part of a broader solution ensuring modification solutions promote the safe and sustainable integration of assistive technology into the daily roles and routines of individuals. The practitioner recognises the importance of collaborative partnerships to achieve successful outcomes – refer to 5.5	ensure that recommended environmental and home modifications integrate these technologies appropriately.	environment is adapted to support the person's current and future independence and functionality with appropriate assistive devices.	application of best practice approaches in using assistive technologies to enhance environmental and home modification outcomes and support the development of skills and knowledge for less experienced practitioners.
4.13 Sensory approaches The occupational therapist acknowledges the importance of the environment on a person's sensory experience and can apply a range of environmental and home modification strategies that address a person's sensory needs, creating sensory environments that promote optimal sensory health and wellbeing.	The occupational therapist has a foundational understanding of how environments can impact the sensory experience and occupational performance and participation of individuals. Practitioners can consider basic environmental and home strategies to address sensory needs in low complexity scenarios with the support of senior practitioners.	The occupational therapist can confidently identify and apply a range of environmental and home strategies to address sensory needs to create optimal sensory experiences. Practitioners consider factors such as lighting, sound, and temperature to create environments that promote sensory wellbeing and support the individual's engagement in meaningful occupations.	The occupational therapist has experience in creating sensory-rich environments that promote optimal sensory health and wellbeing. Practitioners design and apply advanced sensory strategies that support individuals with diverse and complex needs, ensuring strategies are evidence-based and tailored to the individual's sensory requirements. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners to

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
			build their skills and knowledge in this space.
4.14 Behavioural approaches The occupational therapist can apply a range of environmental and home modification strategies and approaches to support the needs of people who display behaviours that may place themselves or others at risk whilst taking into consideration the impact these strategies may have on the persons interaction with the environment or engagement in meaningful occupations (see 1.08 Restrictive Practices).	The occupational therapist builds their understand of behavioural strategies in promoting safety and supporting individuals with challenging behaviours. Practitioners seek the support of senior practitioners to identify environmental and home strategies to support behavioural needs in low complexity scenarios.	The occupational therapist can comprehensively identify and apply a broad range of behavioural strategies to manage a range of situations and contexts. Practitioners implement individualised strategies that support the individual's safety while enhancing their participation in meaningful activities. Practitioners assess the impact of these strategies on the individual's occupational engagement and modify approaches as necessary to optimal outcomes.	The occupational therapist has experience in using environmental and home modifications to address a range of behavioural presentations, particularly those with high complexity. Practitioners design and implement advanced strategies to address immediate safety and longer-term wellbeing and occupational performance and participation goals. Senior practitioners contribute to the development of organisational systems and structures that promote the consistent application of best practice and support less experienced practitioners in their identification and application of behavioural approaches when designing their environment modification recommendations.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
Domain 5: Working with other health professionals and key stakeholders	Occupational therapists understand the role and contribution of different health and building professionals, the vital role of significant others and the importance of coordinator and intermediary roles when designing and implementing successful environmental and home modifications. Occupational therapists must actively seek to build their skills in collaborative practice at all career stages and across all settings, basing capability not only on completion of training but also on proactively seeking opportunities to work with others and build skills in communication and conflict resolution. Occupational therapists must manage relationships with a range of other stakeholders including the client, their significant others, funding schemes, governing authorities and other professionals and apply the requisite approaches and capabilities to mitigate the risk of conflicts and disputes. Should disagreements or disputes arise, the occupational therapist takes the appropriate course of action to address matters as they in real-time and in accordance with any applicable systems or standards.		
5.1 Working within a multidisciplinary team The occupational therapist understands how to work in a multidisciplinary care environment, and how to represent the occupational therapy role within that team. The occupational therapist works across different systems and programs to support a truly interdisciplinary approach, including GPs, specialists, care staff, clinical teams, and technical experts (see 5.03). The practitioner acknowledges	The occupational therapist understands the importance of collaboration within a multidisciplinary team when considering environmental and home modifications. Practitioners contribute to team discussions by providing relevant input related to their occupational therapy assessment and intervention, advocate for the client's needs within the team and, under the supervision of senior practitioners, build their skills in interacting with, and working	The occupational therapist actively contributes to multidisciplinary teams by representing the occupational therapy role and ensuring that the client's occupational and environmental and home modification needs are considered in the care plan. Practitioners can operate across systems and programs to integrate occupational therapy interventions within the broader care context. Practitioners communicate effectively with other professionals	The occupational therapist can take a leadership role in multidisciplinary team environments, guiding the team in a collaborative approach that integrates occupational therapy interventions into client care. Practitioners facilitate effective communication across professionals and ensure that occupational therapy's role is clearly defined and respected. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners to develop effective teamwork and advocacy

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
the importance of establishing clear expectations and agreements with all relevant parties before any works commence.	alongside, other professionals, such as GPs and care staff, to ensure coordinated and holistic care.	and ensure clear expectations are established to ensure collaborative, person-centred outcomes.	skills that support best practices in interdisciplinary care.
5.2 Working with carers and significant others The occupational therapist understands the importance of working with carers and significant others and of considering the needs, capacity, and wellbeing of those in caring roles to prevent carer burnout or fatigue. The practitioner also appreciates the need to collaborate with a range of stakeholders involved in the approval of modifications including funding schemes, governing authorities and landlords, to achieve the best outcomes for their clients. The practitioner also appreciates the different roles carers and significant others may take and how these may be informal (unpaid carers) vs formal (appointed decision	The occupational therapist understands the importance of working with carers and significant others to support the client's occupational and environmental and home modification goals. Practitioners are supported by senior practitioners to build their communication and therapeutic relationship skills to support their engagement with carers such that their concerns needs are reflected in care plans. Practitioners are also supported in recognising the risks of carer burnout and fatigue and guided by senior practitioner on how to offer practical support and resources in low complexity scenarios.	The occupational therapist works closely with carers and significant others, acknowledging their critical role in the client's care and the design of successful environmental and home modification interventions. Practitioners assess and support the well-being of carers, providing guidance and strategies to facilitate and sustain the carer role. Practitioners collaborate with a range of stakeholders, including funding bodies and other service providers, to achieve the best outcomes for clients while considering the impact on carers.	The occupational therapist is experienced in collaborating with carers and significant others, ensuring they are fully supported throughout the therapeutic process. Practitioners are skilled at representing the needs of the client and actively collaborate and engage with key stakeholders to achieve this. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners by sharing knowledge about, and demonstrating, effective engagement with carers and significant others and supporting them to adopt these skills in low complexity scenarios.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
makers) and the different approaches that may be required when working across these different carer groups.			
5.3 Working with building service professionals The occupational therapist recognises the importance of working with a range of building service professionals like access consultants. The practitioner understands the importance of all parties working within their scope and the risks that may arise if this is not adhered to. The occupational therapist understands how the relationship and collaboration with a building service professionals may be influenced by a range of factors like funding, regulatory frameworks, and building class and type – refer to 4.08.	The occupational therapist recognises the importance of collaborating with technical experts such building and access consultants. Practitioners learn about the role of these technical experts and are assisted by senior practitioners to develop skills in successfully communicating and collaborating with these professionals. Practitioners value the importance of working within their scope of practice and seek support from senior practitioners to regularly reflect on this.	The occupational therapist can coordinate with technical experts, ensuring that environmental and home modifications are designed and implemented according to the client's needs and enhance functional independence and quality of life. Practitioners ensure that all professionals involved are working within their scope and address any issues that arise related to the integration of technical and therapeutic aspects.	The occupational therapist is experienced in working with technical experts across a range of settings and complexities. Practitioners ensure that they, and others, adhere to their respective scopes of practice and can evaluate the work of technical experts to ensure that modifications meet the client's needs, regulatory standards, and therapeutic goals. Practitioners support less experienced practitioners to develop their skills in collaborative working with building and access consultants across a range of situations.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
5.4 Working with architects, builders and project managers The occupational therapist understands when to engage with, and how to collaborate effectively with architects, builders and project managers when assessing, designing and implementing environmental and home modification solutions. The occupational therapist effectively communicates and negotiates with all parties for approaches and solutions that enhance independence and participation, align with assessed needs and functional goals, meet funding and governance requirements and demonstrate evidence based best practice approaches in accordance with their clinical reasoning.	The occupational therapists is developing their ability to engage with architects, builders, and project managers. Practitioners identify situations where collaboration with these professionals is necessary for environmental and home modifications. With the support of senior practitioners, practitioners build their skills in communication and decision-making processes that ensure recommended solutions align functional goals, funding requirements and guidelines.	The occupational therapist can work more autonomously in engaging with architects, builders, and project managers. Practitioners can analyse how environmental, and home modifications impact a person's independence and participation and can effectively contribute to discussions and design decisions, ensuring solutions meet both the assessed needs and functional goals of clients. Practitioners can advocate for evidence-based approaches, and consider the broader context of funding, governance, and best practice frameworks and can confidently coordinating and managing more complex environmental and home projects and addressing any emerging issues during implementation.	The occupational therapist is expert in collaborating with architects, builders, and project managers across a range of clinical and environmental and home complexities. Practitioners employ advanced communication strategies, supporting the use of evidence-based practices while ensuring approaches and solutions align with clinical reasoning, assessed needs and funding and governance requirements. Practitioners can develop policies and protocols to enhance the effectiveness of collaborative efforts in environmental and home modification projects and support less experienced practitioners to develop these skills.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
5.5 Working with AT suppliers, technicians and rehabilitation engineers The occupational therapist understands their role and responsibilities, as well as those of AT suppliers, technicians, and engineers, for AT trials and collaborative decision-making. The occupational therapist draws upon and effectively communicates assessment findings, professional reasoning, funding knowledge, product knowledge, and client goals & preferences to guide AT selection. The occupational therapist ensures that AT solutions align with functional needs, environments, and participation goals. Throughout the process, the occupational therapist upholds client choice, cultural responsiveness, and inclusion, seeking solutions that enhance independence and participation.	The occupational therapist develops their understanding of AT suppliers, technicians, and rehabilitation engineers' roles and responsibilities in the AT selection process. Practitioners apply their foundational knowledge of assessment findings, client goals, and funding requirements to contribute to AT trials with the support of senior practitioners. In low complexity scenarios, practitioners assist in trial coordination, basic adjustments, and providing initial education to AT users and seek guidance from senior practitioners to develop their skills in representing for person-centred AT choices.	The occupational therapist can independently identify AT solutions for clients with a broader range of needs, including those with more complex functional and environmental and home requirements. Practitioners critically analyse assessment data to make informed recommendations, can proactively problem-solve issues related to AT fit, modifications, and performance. Practitioners use this knowledge to inform effective collaboration and engagement with suppliers and technicians to develop customised and technical AT solutions.	The occupational therapist provides expert guidance on AT selection and lead the interprofessional collaboration with suppliers, technicians, and engineers. Practitioners bring their expert knowledge of customisation, and procurement for highly complex scenarios and integrate the insights from their assessment with the views of AT experts to design highly specialised AT solutions. Practitioners develop best-practice guidelines in AT provision, contribute to clinical governance and advocate for AT policies and funding systems that improve client access and industry standards and set the benchmark for interprofessional practice. Practitioners support and train less experienced colleagues in the development of these skills.

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
5.6 Working with intermediary roles The occupational therapist understands the role and purpose of support and intermediary roles such as care coordinators, care partners, support coordinators and how to collaborate and negotiate with those roles when undertaking planning and implementing environmental and home modifications including provisions to meet care and personal needs whilst works are undertaken in home environments.	The occupational therapist understands the role of care coordinators, care partners, and other intermediary professionals in the planning and implementation of environmental and home modifications. Practitioners are supported by senior practitioners to develop skills in collaboration with intermediaries when implementing environmental and home modifications in low complexity scenarios.	The occupational therapist effectively collaborates with care coordinators and other intermediary roles, ensuring that all aspects of the environmental and home modification process are aligned with the client's needs and shared care goals. Practitioners ensure that the modifications consider care needs during and after implementation, and they work with care partners to ensure continuity of care throughout the process.	The occupational therapist is experienced at working with care coordinators and intermediary roles, ensuring that modifications are carefully planned and implemented in line with the client's care needs. Practitioners provide support to less experienced practitioners to support their development of skills that facilitate effectively working relationships with these roles and environmental and home modifications are integrated into the broader care plan to ensure the client's continuing care needs are met.
5.7 Working with the wider community The occupational therapist understands the need to have a good understanding of the community in which they work and applies this knowledge when making thoughtful recommendations around	The occupational therapist understands the role of community networks in supporting clients. Practitioners are supported by senior practitioners to develop skills in identification and collaboration with local services, housing providers, and suppliers of assistive	The occupational therapist consistently applies their knowledge of the community when making recommendations about local services, housing options, and other community-based resources. Practitioners build relationships with local authorities, service providers,	The occupational therapist is experienced in building strong relationships with the wider community, leveraging local connections to support clients effectively. Practitioners build service level resources and materials on community services, advocate for the

Occupational Therapy Australia

	Foundational practitioner	Intermediate practitioner	Senior practitioner
relationship building with community networks. This includes community services provided through local authorities, housing services, local providers and suppliers of assistive technology and home modifications services.	technology. Practitioners are supported by senior practitioners to develop recommendations that consider the community resources available to support the occupational needs of lower complexity clients.	and community organisations to support effective and tailored referrals to services.	development of community-based solutions to meet clients' needs and support less experienced practitioners to develop skills in navigating community networks.

Occupational Therapy Australia

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