

Terms of reference: Long Covid network

Statement:

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, occupational therapists have been integral members of multi-disciplinary teams supporting people to manage the effects of the virus. Occupational therapists are playing a vital role in supporting people with Long Covid to maintain and regain independence in daily life, by applying their expertise in areas such as fatigue management, cognitive assessment, and vocational rehabilitation.

RCOT has been working nationally on the development of approaches and resources for healthcare professionals and people with Long Covid. RCOT is making the case for an increase in support for those with Long Covid and is working closely with other organisations to ensure that those commissioning services are aware of the important role that occupational therapists have in the assessment and rehabilitation of people with Long Covid.

Long Covid network purpose:

The aim of the network is to bring together RCOT members from across the UK to share learning on the role and impact of occupational therapists in Long Covid assessment and rehabilitation.

Some of the activities of the network are delivered collaboratively with colleagues at the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP), and members of both organisations are invited to participate. Occupational therapists are working closely with physiotherapists in Long Covid settings, and it is valuable to share learning and resources across the professions as our understanding of this new illness develops.

RCOT and CSP will offer regular, virtual drop-in meetings for network members to discuss areas of practice relating to Long Covid, and members will also be invited to join a shared online workspace, hosted on Slack, to share resources.

Occupational therapists and support staff can be added to the network list if they:

- Are members of RCOT
- Work with, or are expecting to work with, people with Long Covid
- Have lived experience of Long Covid
- Are developing business cases for services providing Long Covid rehabilitation
- Are students or academics with an interest in this area
- Are researchers investigating this area

In line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) names and email addresses are not shared, and no personal data will be shared with CSP.

Please be aware that, as with other RCOT networks, the Long Covid network has certain ground rules. These are:

- Email addresses and other contact details will not be shared without the person's consent
- If members wish to share information or raise a question to the group, please use the Slack workspace or send to Practice.admin@rcot.co.uk
- When using the Slack workspace, professional conduct and communication is expected at all times, in line with the [RCOT Professional standards for occupational therapy practice, conduct and ethics](#) (2021)
- Abusive and offensive language and materials are forbidden
- Members should only share resources and materials that are in the public domain, or with

appropriate permission

- RCOT reserves the right to remove any content that is not deemed to be appropriate
- If you change your email address, please contact Practice.admin@rcot.co.uk with your new details as soon as possible
- Members can remove their name from the group at any time by contacting Practice.admin@rcot.co.uk

Thank you for participating in this network. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Practice.admin@rcot.co.uk