Challenges in occupational therapy when providing home-based rehabilitation for senior citizens

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A future challenge for occupational therapists is meeting the need of rehabilitation for the increasing age profile of citizens living at home with multiple conditions affecting their participation in everyday life. Providing home-based rehabilitation is complex since it includes problematic situations where changes occur based on aspects of individual factors for example, ill-health and/or social and contextual factors as caregiving partners, supporting society, physical environment and community mobility. Despite that, a service that further challenges the home-based rehabilitation is short-term respite care in advantage for the couple’s ability to continue their life together in their own home. Another challenge and at the same time a benefit is the increasing digitalization of society that may lead to a need for developing other forms of rehabilitation interventions in occupational therapy.

The objective of this workshop is to discuss challenges in providing community based rehabilitation for senior citizens and their caregivers in a digitalized society. Also to discuss relevance and challenges for research in order to create new knowledge about home-based rehabilitation for senior citizens and evidence based practice.

Format: The workshop will provide an overview of the issue and examples stemming from on-going research projects in Sweden and United States. This will be future addressed in small group format linking the discussions to the participants practice and research.

Maximum number of participants: 40 persons. This workshop should be suitable for students, clinicians and researcher with an interest in the objectives.