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Dr. Hassan Izzeddin Sarsak

CAREER OBJECTIVES

- **Obtain a position that allows me to combine my clinical and research expertise with different populations and settings and focus on functional assessments and interventions**
- **Develop skills as an evidence-based scientist**
- **Teach in Rehabilitation and Occupational Therapy Curriculum**
- **Advocate for the rights of Persons with Disabilities and enhance services provided to improve satisfaction, and empower functional performance and everyday living skills in terms of independence, safety, and quality**

EDUCATION

University of Pittsburgh, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Major in Health and Rehabilitation Science with a Concentration in Occupational Therapy (OT), January, 2011 – December, 2013

Focus: Assistive Technology for Persons with Disabilities
Evidence-based Medicine/Practice
Psychosocial Studies

Dissertation: Functional Assessment of Wheeled Mobility and Seating Interventions (Relationship of Self-report and Performance-based Assessments)

Cumulative GPA = 3.606 / 4.000

Master of Science (MS)

Major in Occupational Therapy (OT), September, 2009 – May, 2010

Focus: Rehabilitation functional assessments and interventions

- Research and evidence-based practice
- US health care system

Master project I:

- Developing two Single Subject Design studies. Topics: Evaluation and intervention of Nose Touching & Teeth Grinding (Bruxism) Behaviors
- Functional assessment: Evaluation of psychometric properties of the Barthel Index (BI) in Activities of Daily Living (ADLs).

Master project II:

- Human Performance Adaptation: the use of Joint Protection (JP) principles with persons with Rheumatoid Arthritis (Evaluation & Recommendations).
- Human Performance Analysis: a comparison between different functional measurement tools/methods in handwriting skills with school aged children.

Cumulative GPA = 3.528 / 4.000

Dr. Sarsak

Jordan University, School of Rehabilitation Sciences, Amman, Jordan

Bachelor of Science (BS)

Major in Occupational Therapy (OT), September, 1999 – June., 2005

RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The University of Jordan, Faculty of Rehabilitation, Department of Occupational Therapy, Amman, Jordan

Assistant Professor / Full-time Lecturer / Department Representative, October 2014 – Present

- Applied occupational therapy in neurological and physical disorders
- Applied occupational therapy in psychiatry
- Research project in occupational therapy
- Occupational therapy strategies and therapeutic techniques

The Hashemite University, School of Allied Health Sciences, Department of Occupational Therapy, Zarqa, Jordan

Assistant Professor / Full-time Lecturer, January 2014 – September 2014

- Occupational therapy treatment for mental health disorders
- Introduction to research methodology
- Theories in occupational therapy
- Developmental pediatrics
- Special topics in occupational therapy
- Occupational therapy for geriatrics

University of Pittsburgh, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (SHRS), Department of Occupational Therapy, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Research and Teaching Assistant, May 2012 – May 2013

- Enter and analyze research data in different studies (Simulated Teaching, & alternative keyboarding studies)
- Apply statistical programs (i.e., SPSS), create databases of study participants, enter and analyze data for research studies in the Department of Occupational Therapy
- Assist faculty with teaching and labs preparations

University of Pittsburgh, SHRS, Department of Rehabilitation Science & Technology, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Graduate Student Researcher (GSR), January 2011 – April 2012

- Wheeled mobility and seating interventions (seating biomechanics, ergonomic seating functions, etc.)
- Pressure ulcers prevention for older adults at nursing homes (prescriptions of properly fitted wheelchairs and skin protection & positioning cushions and/or devices, pressure mapping technology, etc.)

Teaching Assistant, January 2012 – April 2012

- Course: HRS 3710: Fundamentals of wheelchairs seating and mobility.

University of Pittsburgh, SHRS, Department of Occupational Therapy, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Research and Teaching Assistant, September 2009 – December 2010

- Enter and analyze research data in different studies (Brain Injury, Cardiac Arrest, & alternative keyboarding studies)
- Check data accuracy via visual basic program in Excel for objective measures
- Assist faculty with teaching and labs preparations

Dr. Sarsak

Lectures/Seminars/Workshops

- Sarsak, HI. Self-perceived Satisfaction and Functional Independence of Wheelchair Users in Jordan, Jordan University for Science and Technology, Irbid, Jordan. November 08, 2016.
- Sarsak, HI. Buildings Accessibility for University Students with Disabilities in Jordan, University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan. May 31, 2015
- Sarsak, HI. Evidence of Occupational Therapy's Contribution to Healthcare, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt. March 07, 2015.
- Sarsak, HI. Special Topics in Occupational Therapy, Faculty of Physical Therapy, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt. March 06, 2015.
- Sarsak, HI. Introduction to Occupational Therapy, Faculty of Physical Therapy, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt. March 05, 2015.
- Sarsak, HI. Functional Assessment of Wheeled Mobility and Seating Interventions (Relationship of Self-report and Performance-based Assessments), Al Bashir Hospital, Amman, Jordan. June 05, 2014.
- Sarsak, HI. Functional Assessment of Wheeled Mobility and Seating Interventions (Relationship of Self-report and Performance-based Assessments), the Hashemite University, Zarqa, Jordan. April 10, 2014.
- Sarsak, HI. The Occupational Therapy Role in Wheelchair Assessment and Prescription, University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan. November 04, 2013.
- Sarsak, HI. Seating Biomechanics: Functional and Clinical Implications, University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan. November 04, 2013.
- Sarsak, HI. Functional Assessment of Wheeled Mobility and Seating Interventions (Relationship of Self-report and Performance-based Assessments), University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan. October 30, 2013.
- Sarsak, HI. Functional Assessments and Evaluations for Wheelchair Users, University of Pittsburgh In-house Training for Clinical/Research Graduate Students/Staff, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA. March 17, 2012.
- Sarsak, HI. Seating Interventions and Wheeled Mobility for Persons with Physical Dysfunctions, University of Pittsburgh In-house Training for Clinical/Research Graduate Students/Staff, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA. September 21, 2011.
- Sarsak, HI. Cognitive Perceptual Skills and Neurodevelopment for Students with Special Needs, Al Nibras International School for Children with Special Needs and Learning Differences, Kuwait. November 19, 2008.
- Sarsak, HI. Writing Skills for Children with Special Needs. Al Nibras International School for Children with Special Needs and Learning Differences, Kuwait. April 14, 2007.
- Sarsak, HI. Pre-academic Skills for Children with Special Needs, Al Nibras International School for Children with Special Needs and Learning Differences, Kuwait. February 10, 2007.

Scientific Conferences

- The Second Conference of Jordan Universities in Rehabilitation Sciences, Jordan University for Science and Technology, Irbid, Jordan. November, 2016.
- The First Conference of Jordan Universities in Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan. May, 2015.
- Al-Hussein Society-Jordan Center for Training and Inclusion International Conference "Rights for Persons with Disabilities and Environmental Accessibility", Hashemite University, Al Zarqa, Jordan. April, 2015.
- 16th International Conference of the Faculty of Physical Therapy at Cairo University "No More Disability", Cairo, Egypt. March, 2015.
- The Scientific Day of the Rehabilitation Center at Al Bashir Hospital, Amman, Jordan. June, 2014.
- 29th International Seating Symposium, Maryland, USA. March, 2013.

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- PEAK Conference for Professional Development at the Universal American School, Kuwait. November, 2008.

Research Papers and on-going Projects

- Sarsak, H. I. (2016). Manuscript in preparation. Paper presented at the Second Conference of Jordan Universities in Rehabilitation Sciences at the University for Science and Technology, Irbid, Jordan.
- Sarsak, H. I. (2015). Manuscript in preparation. Paper presented at the First Conference of Jordan Universities in Rehabilitation Sciences at the University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan.
- Sarsak, H. I. (2015). Manuscript in preparation. Paper presented at Al-Hussein Society-Jordan Center for Training and Inclusion International Conference "Rights for Persons with Disabilities and Environmental Accessibility" at the Hashemite University, Al Zarqa, Jordan.
- Sarsak, H. I. (2015). *Evidence of Occupational Therapy's Contribution to Healthcare*. Paper presented at the 16th International Conference of the Faculty of Physical Therapy at Cairo University: No More Disability, Cairo, Egypt.
- Sarsak, H. I. (2015). Paper presented at the 16th International Conference of the Faculty of Physical Therapy at Cairo University: No More Disability, Cairo, Egypt.
- Sarsak, H. I. (2014). Paper presented at the Scientific Medical Conference of the Ministry of Health at Al Bashir Hospital, Amman, Jordan.
- Sarsak, H. I. (2013). (Doctoral Dissertation, University of Pittsburgh, 2013).

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

The University of Jordan, Faculty of Rehabilitation, Department of Occupational Therapy, Amman, Jordan Consultant, Clinical Supervisor, October 2014 – Present

Mentorship: Clinical fieldwork experience and senior students rotations supervision

- Applied occupational therapy in neurological and physical disorders
- Applied occupational therapy in geriatrics and psychiatry
- Occupational therapy techniques

The Hashemite University, School of Allied Health Sciences, Department of Occupational Therapy, Zarqa, Jordan Consultant, Clinical Supervisor, January 2014 – September 2014

Mentorship: Clinical fieldwork experience and senior students rotations supervision

- Occupational therapy treatment for mental health disorders
- Developmental pediatrics and community-based rehabilitation

University of Pittsburgh, SHRS, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, Pittsburgh, PA, USA Clinical Team Leader, January 2011 – April 2012

- Wheeled mobility and seating interventions (wheelchairs assessments, delivery, training, adjustments, etc.)
- Pressure ulcers prevention at nursing homes

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Center for Assistive Technology (CAT)

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), Pittsburgh, PA, USA October 2010 – December 2010

Internship: Assistive Technology Professional (ATP)

- Seating and positioning (powered and manual wheelchair evaluations and prescriptions)
- Pressure mapping evaluations for wheelchair users with different neurological and physical dysfunctions using the Force Sensing Array (FSA) technology
- Assistive technology evaluations (computer access, AT for cognitive/perceptual disabilities, hearing loss, visually impaired, communication disorders, etc.)

The Children's Institute

Occupational Therapy Department, Pittsburgh, PA, USA January 2010 – April 2010

Preceptorship: Outpatient/Inpatient/School-based Rehabilitation

- Evaluate and treat children with different diagnoses (i. e., neural/orthopedic disorders, such as RND, CVA, TBI, SCI, fractures, Mental Retardation, Autism, Down Syndrome, etc.)
- Seating and positioning evaluations for children with physical dysfunctions
- Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) devices evaluations, fittings, and trainings

The Veterans Hospital (VA)

Occupational Therapy Department, Pittsburgh, PA, USA October 2009 – January 2010

Preceptorship: Edema / Burns

- Assess and treat patients with hand injuries, burns and edema, shoulder injuries and rotator cuff impingements.

I.C.E.S Company, Kuwait, December 2006 – June 2009

Senior Occupational Therapist; Al Nibras International School (NIS) for Children with Special Needs

Head of Occupational Therapy Department; Tamkeen Center for Educational Services

- Assess and treat children with special needs: Mental Retardation, Down syndrome, Autism, etc.
- In charge of OT services in Tamkeen center (evaluation, intervention, discharge plans, assistive technology equipment, referrals etc. for students with Learning Difficulties (Dyslexia, Dysgraphia etc.), apraxia, and ADHD).

Spa and Massage Experience

Spa Manager; Corners Spa, Holiday Inn Hotel, Kuwait, March 2007 – June 2009

Senior Massage Therapist; Zara Spa, Movenpick Resort, Dead Sea, Jordan, Sep., 2006 – December 2006

- Train and apply variety of facial and body treatments, such as: Salt scrub, Mud wrap, Dry floatation mud wrap, Hydrotherapy, and Healing mud facial,
- Train and apply variety of massage techniques, such as: Swedish, Sport, Aromatherapy, Cooling menthol, Pressure Points, Slimming / Anti-cellulite, Cupping, and Stone massages.

Jordan University, Occupational Therapy Department: Clinical Fieldwork , Amman, Jordan Oct., 2003 – Sep., 2006

CBR – Community Based Rehabilitation center

- Deal with the society members & improve the sense of team work
- Help children with disabilities to be more productive

Al Basheer Hospital – Occupational Therapy department

- Assess and treat individuals with physical dysfunctions and hand injuries

Al Hussein Center for physical disabilities

- Apply orthopedic, neurorehabilitation, compensatory techniques & create adaptations for an independent and safe living

Dr. Sarsak

Al Fhais National Center for Mental Disorders

- Deal with acute & chronic diagnoses and provide a variety of functional activities

Jordan University Hospital - Occupational Therapy Department

- Provide services to patients with different physical dysfunctions (hemiplegic, paraplegia, spinal cord lesions, autism etc.)
- Splinting (hand injuries)

Cerebral Palsy Center

- Provide services to children with cerebral palsy.

Certification/Licensure

- Licensure for Occupational Therapy Practice, # 80002/198, September 2015, Ministry of Health, Jordan
- Teaching Strategies for University Students, January 2015, the University of Jordan, Jordan
- Teaching Strategies for University Students, May 2014, the Hashemite University, Jordan
- Continuing Education Program: Fundamentals of wheelchairs seating and mobility, March 2012, USA
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE), November 2010, USA
- Reliability in Performance Assessment of Self-Care Skills (PASS) outcome measures, May 2010
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification (AHA), September 2009, USA
- Human Subjects Research in Biomedical Science, August 2009, USA
- Research Integrity, August 2009, USA
- Security and Privacy Awareness for Health Professionals, August 2009, USA
- Continuing Medical Education: Bloodborne Pathogen Training, August 2009, USA
- Occupational Therapy Licensure, # 370345, April 2009 – September 2011, Kuwait
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL iBT), January 2009, Kuwait
- Jordan Occupational Therapist License, # JSOT00109, May 2006, Jordan

Membership

Jordanian Society of Occupational Therapy (J.S.O.T), 2006 – Present

Skills

- Creativity / Innovation / Learning Ability / Quality Improvement Activities
- Independence / Initiative
- Job Knowledge
- Leadership / Coaching / Teaching
- Productivity / Quantity
- Punctuality and Attendance
- Quality of Work
- Reliability
- Team Work / Relationships / Customer Service

Dr. Sarsak

Professional References

PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, ABDA

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All supporting documents available on request