

2026 7th Taiwan-Japan Occupational Therapy Joint Symposium

Host: Taiwan Occupational Therapy Association (TOTA)

Japanese Association of Occupational Therapists (JAOT)

Department of Occupational Therapy, Chung Shan Medical University

Introduction:

The Taiwan-Japan Occupational Therapy Joint Symposium aims to promote professional exchange and enhance the quality of occupational therapy services in Taiwan and Japan through the sharing of knowledge, clinical experiences, and service practices. The 2026 symposium will focus on two themes: “Occupational Therapy Services for Dementia” and “Forensic Psychiatry and Occupational Therapy Services.” Each theme will feature speakers from Japan and Taiwan who will share current practices, clinical experiences, and future perspectives in their respective fields.

The first theme, “Occupational Therapy Services for Dementia,” will address post-diagnostic support and community-based occupational therapy for people with dementia in Japan, as well as the development and implementation of the “Live for Today: Cognitive Card Set (LFTCS)” integrating arts and dementia care in Taiwan. The second theme, “Forensic Psychiatry and Occupational Therapy Services,” will explore the expanding role of occupational therapy in forensic and correctional settings in Japan and the development of recovery pathways in forensic psychiatric occupational therapy in Taiwan.

Through the exchange of experiences and practices between Taiwan and Japan, the symposium is expected to deepen mutual understanding of occupational therapy services in dementia care and forensic settings, expand the professional role of occupational therapy across diverse service contexts, and facilitate future international collaboration.

Venue: Room 0112, 1st Floor, Cheng Shin Building, Chung Shan Medical University

Time: 13:30–17:10, October 31, 2026

Language: English

Target Participants: Occupational therapists and professionals from related disciplines.

Maximum Number of Participants: 150

Registration:

Online registration is required. Registrations without payment will not be accepted.

Registration link: <https://www.ot.org.tw/index.php?action=physical-course-apply&id=168>

Registration period: September 1–October 26, 2026

Fee: TOTA members-1,000 NTD , JAOT members-1,000 NTD, none of the above-1,200 NTD

Program Coordinator: Kuan-Yi Li, Chair, Continuing Education Committee

President of the Association: Ying-Chun Chou

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Agenda

Time	Activities	Moderator/Speaker
13:30-14:00		Registration
14:00-14:10	Opening Remarks	Host: Chia-Yu Chang, Board Member Remarks: <u>Ying-Chun Chou</u> , President, Taiwan Occupational Therapy Association (TOTA) <u>Shinichi Yamamoto</u> , President, Japanese Association of Occupational Therapists (JAOT)
14:10-15:10	Occupational Therapy Services for Dementia: Japan/Taiwan	Moderator: Yi-Jung Tsai, Committee Chair Speakers: <u>Daiki Ishimaru</u> , Occupational Therapist (Japan) <u>Ting-Jung Hsu</u> , Director (Taiwan)
15:10-15:25		Coffee Break
15:25-16:25	Forensic Psychiatry and Occupational Therapy Services: Japan/Taiwan	Moderator: Pei-Ying Chan, Committee Chair Speakers: <u>Hajime Adachi</u> , Adjunct Lecturer (Japan) <u>Kuan-Wei Chen</u> , President, Kaohsiung Occupational Therapists Association (Taiwan)
16:25-16:55	Panel Discussion	Moderator: Pei-Ying Chan, Committee Chair Speakers: All speakers
16:55-17:10	Closing Remarks	Host: Chia-Yu Chang, Board Member Remarks: <u>Ying-Chun Chou</u> , President of TOTA <u>Shinichi Yamamoto</u> , President of JAOT

Title: Occupational Therapy Services for Dementia

Speaker 1: Mr. Ishimaru Daiki

Education:

2020	Ph.D. in Health Sciences, Graduate School, Osaka Prefecture University
2015	School of Comprehensive Rehabilitation, Osaka Prefecture University

Work Experience

Specially Appointed Researcher, Department of Psychiatry, Osaka University Graduate School of Medicine	
November 2020~Present	Occupational Therapist, Department of Medical Technology, The University of Osaka Hospital / Department of Psychiatry, The University of Osaka Graduate School of Medicine

Abstract:

Japanese government has prioritized early diagnosis and support for people with dementia (PwD) to enable them to continue live in their familiar communities for as long as possible. Following the approval and introduction of anti-amyloid β antibody therapies in Japan, the timing of diagnosis has shifted earlier, leading to more opportunities to provide support for PwD at earlier stage. As for the

early diagnosis and support, “Blank Period”, the long period from diagnosis to initiation of care services, has been recognized as one of the major issues. For post-diagnostic early support, occupational therapists are expected to shorten the Blank Period by identifying the support needs and challenges faced by PwD and their families, while maintaining or improving their performance in activities of daily living (ADL) to enable safe and independent living in their communities during this period.

In response to these trends, the Japanese Association of Occupational Therapists (JAOT) supports occupational therapists’ involvement in various community-based activities—such as informal activities and peer support cafés—to help PwD and their families maintain connections with their local communities even after diagnosis. The JAOT also offers systematic educational programs to ensure that occupational therapists acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for community-based practice.

For individual-based practice as a university hospital, our multi-disciplinary team including occupational therapists conduct home-visit assessments at early post-diagnosis period to detect subtle ADL declines and identify support needs. These assessments would be shared with community care /case workers to establish support systems for PwD and their families. Additionally, we provide tailor-made intervention or care instruction to increase the efficiency and safety in the ADL during the period until formal care services become available.

In this symposium, we will present the JAOT’s community-based activities and the example of occupational therapy approach in our university hospital for post-diagnosis supports.

Speaker 2: Hsu, Ting-Jung

Topic: Progress and Prospects of ‘Live for Today: Cognitive Card Set (LFTCS)’ in Taiwan Education

2018	M.S. (Master of Science), Department of Long-Term Care, National Taipei University of Nursing and Health Sciences
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Work Experience

2026~present	Supervisor, Taiwan Mindful Care Association
2022~present	Director, Daoxiang Occupational Therapy Clinic
2018~2022	Occupational Therapist, uAge Day Care Center, Taipei Veterans General Hospital
2013~2022	Occupational Therapist, Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology, Taipei Veterans General Hospital

Abstract:

As Taiwan became a super-aged society in 2025, the prevalence of dementia among adults aged 65 and older reached 7.99%. With the growing prevalence of dementia, the quality of dementia care has received increasing attention. In light of the World Health Organization’s 2019 report affirming the positive effects of the arts on health, well-being, and disease management, furthermore, studies showed that engagement in the creative aging activities may stimulate brain function for people with dementia. ‘Live for Today: Cognitive Card Set (LFTCS)’ is an innovative project that seeks to enhance cognitive function, communication, and social interaction for people with cognitive impairment or mild to moderate dementia.

LFTCS has made steadfast efforts to undergo the development process, outreach workshops and

promotion:

1. Cognitive Card Development:

Qualitative research and the KJ Method were employed. Artworks from the National Palace Museum's (NPM) collection were selected, followed by inductive analysis and focus group discussions. Drawing from 60 carefully selected artworks, the LFTCS was organized into 10 thematic categories. An artwork introduction booklet and a user manual were formulated.

2. Pilot Study Phase:

Three elderly participants from a daycare center and five dyads from two dementia community services sites, each consisting of a person with dementia and their informal caregivers, were recruited. Preliminary findings revealed that the LFTCS depicting everyday life evoked personal memories, encouraging both reminiscence and engagement.

3. Press Conferences Launch:

Two press conferences were held to officially launch the LFTCS, which was subsequently commercialized and made available for purchase.

4. Outreach Training Workshops:

A total of eight workshops were conducted, engaging over 416 medical professionals and senior service providers across Taiwan.

Through the innovative project, interdisciplinary collaboration between medical care and the arts facilitated the implementation of the LFTCS in dementia care, enhancing its feasibility and availability. Moving forward, continued application of implementation science will be essential to support the LFTCS in reaching the sustainment phase.

Title: Forensic Psychiatry and Occupational Therapy Services

Speaker 1: Mr. Hajime Adachi

Education:

2010	Master's Degree in Academic Studies, Graduate School of Osaka Kyoiku University
1993	Qualified as an Occupational Therapist

Work Experience:

Managing Director, Fuku no Tane Co., Ltd.
Part-time Lecturer, Kochi Professional University of Rehabilitation

Abstract:

The number of occupational therapists (OTs) in Japan has increased rapidly, and the scope of their practice has expanded beyond healthcare and social welfare settings into community-based and forensic fields. One of the strengths of Japan's healthcare system is its capacity to provide high-quality care consistently across regions.

In recent years, the employment of OTs in forensic and correctional settings has increased. This development reflects the growing number of older incarcerated people and those with disabilities, as well as the significant challenge of occupational injustice associated with incarceration. To address these issues, the speaker has worked to promote change within prisons by analyzing and preventing secondary disabilities among incarcerated people and providing individualized support.

Following the introduction of the new "imprisonment" sentence in June 2025, greater emphasis is now being placed on individualized correctional treatment, further increasing expectations for the

contribution of occupational therapists. Looking ahead, forensic occupational therapy in Japan has the potential to expand into post-release services and support for crime victims. This presentation will also introduce initiatives undertaken by the Japanese Association of Occupational Therapists in the forensic field.

Speaker 2: Chen, Kuan-Wei

Education

2021	National Taiwan University, Department of Occupational Therapy (PhD in Occupational Therapy)
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Work Experience

2014~present	Director, Department of Occupational Therapy, Kaohsiung Municipal Kai-Syuan Psychiatric Hospital
2012~2013	Director, Community Rehabilitation Center, Kaohsiung Municipal Kai-Syuan Psychiatric Hospital

Abstract:

This presentation describes the development of forensic occupational therapy in Taiwan through the clinical experience of Kaohsiung Municipal Kai-Syuan Psychiatric Hospital, one of the country's major providers of court-ordered forensic psychiatric care. The presentation focuses on how occupational therapists are building practical recovery pathways within an evolving service system. It first outlines the Kai-Syuan model, including multidisciplinary assessment, staged treatment, violence reduction, functional restoration, discharge preparation, and community transition.

The presentation then examines how social cognition can inform occupational therapy practice with forensic psychiatric patients. Difficulties in recognizing facial emotions, understanding implied meanings, and applying social knowledge may contribute to interpersonal misunderstanding, conflict, and poor community adaptation. These domains are assessed using CAT-FER, COTIME, and CAT-SK, and are linked to social cognition groups, community adaptation training, legal education, emotional regulation, and interpersonal problem-solving activities.

Functional change is further monitored through SRG-PSP and COTEs, allowing therapists to consider both patients' self-perceived social functioning and observed general, interpersonal, and work-related behavior. Longitudinal clinical findings suggest gradual but uneven changes across social functioning, social knowledge, implied-meaning comprehension, selected emotion-recognition domains, and general behavior. These results are interpreted as practice-based signals for refining intervention rather than proof of a single treatment effect.

Finally, the presentation introduces the translation and prospective application of the DUNDRUM Toolkit, particularly its potential to support discussions of treatment completion, recovery readiness, graded leave, step-down care, and community reintegration. By connecting social cognition, occupational performance, multidisciplinary observation, and recovery-oriented assessment, this presentation illustrates how forensic occupational therapy in Taiwan is moving from ward-based rehabilitation toward a more structured pathway to community life. The presentation also highlights opportunities for Taiwan-Japan dialogue regarding professional roles, assessment practices, recovery planning, and future collaborative research, while balancing individual recovery needs with public safety and service realities.