

Melissa Schaeffer, OTD,OTR/L, BCP

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Work Experience

Nova Southeastern University

Ft. Lauderdale, FL July 2020- Present

- Assistant Professor
- Co-Teaching Pediatrics Practicum OCT-6107
- Curriculum Development of transition to OTD program
- Admissions Committee Member since 2020
- College Appeal Committee Member since 2020

New York University Langone Medical Center

New York, NY May 2009 – July 2020

- Assistant Unit Supervisor Pediatric Occupational Therapy
- Population birth to 21 years of age
- Primary Teams: acute care, acute rehabilitation, outpatient therapy
- Provided supervision/training for a staff of 13 therapists, scheduling duties, and customer service
- Development and implementation of staff trainings, competencies, and the student education program
- Provided supervision for CI's and students throughout 12 week student experiences
- Wrote research proposals and submitted for IRB approval
- Ran trainings for nursing staff regarding transfers and early mobilization
- Wrote for several grants to develop future programs for the pediatric department
- Completed letters of medical necessity for adaptive equipment and durable medical equipment
- Completed CPSE and CSE school reports
- Lead saeboflex, bioness and electrical stimulation clinics
- Advanced training in sensory integration, treatment of children with hypotonia, NDT training
- CI for level II students

Montefiore Medical Center Children's hospital

Bronx, NY January 2009-May2009

- Inpatient Acute Care Occupational Therapist
- Population: birth to 21 years of age
- Diagnoses: cardiac, seizure disorders, orthopedic injury and surgery, PICU, neurological disorders, autoimmune disorders, cancers, etc.
- Attended and advocated in medical rounds
- Evaluation and discharge planning
- Completed recommendations for durable medical equipment and adaptive equipment training

National Rehabilitation Hospital

Washington, DC March 2004 - January 2009

- Inpatient Rehabilitation Staff Occupational Therapist
- Inpatient Rehabilitation Resource Occupational Therapist (as of 2007)
- Population: fours years of age – geriatrics
- Primary Teams: Stroke, Pediatrics
- Secondary Teams: Brain Injury
- Coverage provided on Orthopedic, Cardiac, General Medicine and Spinal Cord teams
- Maintained caseload of 6-8
- Completed prescriptions for adaptive equipment and durable medical equipment
- Lead saeboflex, bioness and electrical stimulation clinics
- Assist with training aides on 3rd floor
- CI for three level I OT students

- CI for one level II OT student
- Performed monitored exercise for cardiac patients
- Provided education on cardiac, vital signs, bed mobility, and cognition for incoming staff and students

Education

ROCKY MOUNTAIN UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Doctor of Occupational Therapy

Provo, UT

May 2013- June 2015

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Science, Occupational therapy

Boston, MA

September 2000- July 2004

Presentations:

- **AOTA Poster Presenter-** Camp High 5: A Modified Constraint-Induced Movement Therapy and Bimanual Training Day Camp for Children with Hemiplegia
Chicago, IL
April 2016
- **Platform Presenter-** Rusk Rehabilitation 3rd Annual Research Day: RUSK Camp High 5: A Modified Constraint-Induced Movement Therapy (mCIMT) & Bimanual Training Day Camp for Children with Hemiplegia
New York, NY
June 2016
- **Poster Presenter-** NYU Center of Health and Rehabilitation Research (CoHRR) Research Symposium: RUSK Camp High 5: A Modified Constraint-Induced Movement Therapy (mCIMT) & Bimanual Training Day Camp for Children with Hemiplegia
New York, NY
October 2016
- **AOTA Poster Presenter-** Bridging the Gap Between Classroom and Clinic: Evidence-Based Practice at the Core of Fieldwork Experience
Salt Lake City, UT
April 2018
- **AOTA Poster Presenter-** Evidence-Based Practice for Upper-Extremity Rehabilitation Using an Intensive Therapy Model in Outpatient Pediatrics
Salt Lake City, UT
April 2018
- **Conference Speaker-** NYU Langone Health Cerebral Palsy: Comprehensive Care and New Directions: UE Intensive model of Rehabilitation for children with Cerebral Palsy
New York, NY
May 2018
- **Conference Speaker-** American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine (AACPD) Scientific Program Committee: Destination MACS IV and V! Optimizing assessment tools and treatment goals for children with CP and severe upper extremity dysfunction
Cincinnati, OH
October 2018

- **Short Course Presenter-** American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference-
A Paradigm Shift in Pediatric Service Delivery: Benefits of an Intensive Therapy Model

New Orleans, LA

April, 2019

Special Skills

- **AOTA Board Certification Pediatrics**
- USC/WPS Sensory Integration Certification #4006
- Certification in physical agent modalities
- Brain Injury Specialty Certification
- Aquatic Therapy Certification
- Level 2 Saeboflex Trained
- Bioness Trained
- BITS Trained
- FES Bike Trained
- Computer Skills- Experience with Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, Online searches

Grants Awarded

- **Electrical Stimulation Grant awarded \$5,000** New York,
NY,
October 2010
- **Sensory Integration Program Development awarded \$50,000** New York, NY,
October 2011
- **ADL grant awarded \$7,000** New York, NY,
October 2012
- **ADL Grant 2 awarded \$5,000** New York,
NY,
October 2019
- **Developmental Education and Play series awarded \$7,000** New York,
NY,
October 2019

References

Available upon request