The Research Evidence-Based Pyramid for OT Practice

Borgetto et al., 2007; Tomlin & Borgetto, 2011

Qualitative
- Study with one informant
- Group study less rigor
- Group study more rigor

Experimental
- Single-subject study
- Controlled clinical trial
- Randomized clinical trial

Outcomes
- One group pre-post study
- Case-Control, pre-existing groups
- Case-Control, pre-existing groups with covariates

Descriptive
- Case Series, normative
- Assoc/correlation
- Sys review

Meta
- x Meta
Instructions for the paper pyramid.

For the Research Pyramid paper model: cut out the triangle, keeping the dark edge tabs connected. Cut away the three small triangles marked with “x” at the tips of the outer triangles. Putting the pink “Descriptive” research face at the bottom, fold the yellow “Experimental,” blue “Outcomes” and green “Qualitative” triangles upward so that their tips approximate. Fold the three black tabs so as to be at a 90 degree angle inward to their respective faces. Fold the colored tip of each face inward at the small triangle base line. Glue the tabs to each adjacent pyramid face. You may need to use a pencil or chopstick poking inside the pyramid to brace the tab when you apply pressure, in order to get a good bond. Finally fold the three tip triangles together at the top so as to interlock to form a small platform of three colors. Voila! That’s the evidence base on which our profession of occupational therapy can most solidly stand.