

Sample Diagnostic List for Consultation

IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ

- This sample list has been developed to support consultation and discussion. It is not a final, complete, or exhaustive list of diagnoses that may be established by an occupational therapist (OT).
- This list reflects conditions that are closely connected to the work OTs already do within their legislated scope of practice in Alberta. OTs regularly assess how these conditions affect a person's ability to function and participate in everyday life. In many cases, OTs already carry out significant parts of the assessment and clinical reasoning needed to identify and establish these diagnoses.
- An OT's ability to establish and communicate a diagnosis depends on their area of practice, competence, and the information available to support clinical decision-making. Some diagnoses can be established independently using information gathered through history-taking, observation, standardized assessment, and evaluation of functional performance. Other diagnoses may require consultation, collaboration, testing, or additional expertise from other qualified regulated health professionals to confirm underlying pathology, rule out alternative explanations, or strengthen diagnostic certainty.
- Not every OT is qualified to establish every diagnosis on this list. An OT must have the knowledge, skills, judgment, and experience required for the specific diagnosis being considered. In many cases, OTs acquire additional education, training, and, where applicable, specialized certification (e.g., Certified Hand Therapist, Certified Lymphedema Therapist) to support competence in their particular area of practice.
- Feedback is sought on gaps, areas needing clarification, and diagnoses that should be added, revised, or excluded from this list. The feedback and rationale provided will support ACOT in determining the regulatory requirements, safeguards, and expectations associated with OTs establishing and communicating diagnoses in Alberta.

Neurodevelopmental Disorders

- Global Developmental Delay
- Developmental Coordination Disorder
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
- Specific Learning Disorder

Psychomotor Disorders

- Stereotyped Movements
- Tics

Trauma and Stress-Related Disorders

- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Adjustment Disorder
- Acute Stress Disorder
- Prolonged Grief Disorder

Mood Disorders

- Major Depressive Disorder
- Persistent Depressive Disorder or Dysthymia

Anxiety Disorders

- Generalized Anxiety Disorder
- Social Anxiety Disorder

Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders

- Hoarding Disorder (including Pathological or Compulsive Hoarding)

Vision Disorders

- Unilateral Spatial Neglect
- Visual Perceptual Disorder
- Oculomotor Dysfunction
- Convergence Insufficiency
- Cerebral/Cortical Visual Impairment

Feeding / Eating Disorders

- Avoidant/Restrictive Food Intake Disorder
- Dysphagia
- Pediatric Feeding Disorder

Pain Disorders

- Chronic Pain
- Fibromyalgia

Musculoskeletal & Orthopedic Conditions

- Carpal Tunnel Syndrome
- Strains (e.g., strain of muscle, fascia, or tendon)
- Sprains
- Instability (e.g., unspecified wrist)
- Dislocations
- Brachial Plexus Injuries
- Tendinopathies
- Synovitis
- Tenosynovitis
- Repetitive strain
- Fractures (e.g., lower end of radius or ulna; Colles', Smith's, Barton's, Chauffeur's)

Neurological and Neurocognitive Disorders

- Peripheral Neuropathy
- Concussion
- Mild Neurocognitive Disorder
- Major Neurocognitive Disorder

Geriatric Specific Disorder

- Age-related physical debility

Lymphatic and Edema Disorders

- Lymphedema (Primary, Secondary)
- Upper/Lower Extremity Lymphedema