

The Vona du Toit Model of Creative Ability Occupational Therapy Support Group

Enabling Continuing Professional Development for occupational therapists and technical instructors.

Louise Jeffries (Senior Occupational Therapist), Robinson Ward, Men's Medium Secure IPU, launched the Vona du Toit Model of Creative Ability (VdTMoCA) Support Group in 2013 during the initial stages of implementing the VdT Model of Creative Ability within clinical practice. The VdTMoCA is a recovery focused occupational therapy practice based model assisting clinicians in accurate assessment of patient needs and informing intervention strategies to improve patient outcomes.

The support group began with a small group of occupational therapists and support staff with an interest in the model. However over the years the group now has **34 members** from IPU's across the Charity meeting on a monthly basis.

The content of the sessions is led by its members identified CPD needs and consists of a variety of learning styles and CPD activities, including formal presentations on the theory of creative ability, workshop sessions applying the theory to practice, sharing of clinical case studies and open group discussion and reflections.

Our achievements –

- The support group has grown from 10 members (2013) to 34 members (2019) on the Northampton site alone.
- The VdTMoCA initially started on 1 ward but is now growing in 6 IPU's throughout the Charity.
- Five abstracts have been accepted for poster presentations, workshops and presentations at the International VdTMoCA Conferences since 2015, held every two years.
- Articles have been published in the VdTMoCA Foundation (UK) twice yearly publication 'Participation'.
- There has been an increase in patient engagement with occupational therapy
- There have been noticeable improvements in patient outcomes
- The OT team have introduced a ROM, the Activity Participation Outcome Measure (APOM), currently being embedded within RIO.

Future CPD opportunities for all Occupational therapy staff

Due to the increasing demand from the occupational therapy team throughout St Andrews Healthcare, Charity wide CPD events will be developed.

- An Introduction to the VdTMoCA – applying theory to practice
- The use of the VdTMoCA with people with a personality Disorder
- APOM training for qualified staff
- Continuation of the the VdTMoCA Support Group

