

Imagine your life without having the tools you need ...

The Role of OT Assisting our varied Veteran clients

Veterans Affairs Canada March 15, 2015

ANDREW CAMPBELL District Occupational Therapist Toronto-Area Office

Today's Outline

- 1. VAC client services / demographics
- 2. OT role within VAC
- 3. Equipment funding delivery: POC 1, 13
- 4. Questions

Veterans Affairs Canada Anciens Combattants Canada

"...the care, treatment, or re-establishment in civil life of any person who served in the Canadian Forces or merchant navy or in the naval, army or air forces or merchant navies of Her Majesty, of any person who has otherwise engaged in pursuits relating to war, and of any other person designated ... and the care of the dependents or survivors of any person referred to ..."



Veteran Affairs Canada: 3 Key Roles



1. Disability Compensation & Financial Support



2. Funding for Healthcare & Re-establishment



3. Catalyst for Remembrance

Canadian Veteran Population

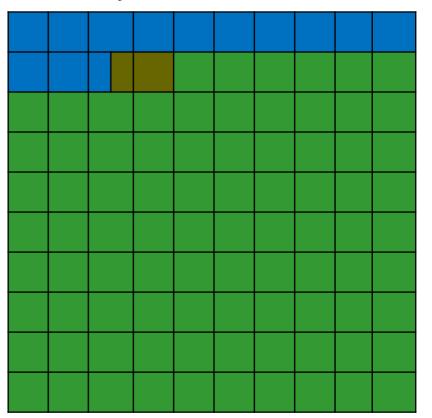
Estimated as of March 2014, Veterans Affairs Canada

- Second World War
 88,400; average age is 90.
- Korean War
 9,800; average age is 82.
- **CF Veterans**

(Reg Force & Primary Reserves)

599,200; average age is **56**.

For Every 100 Vets = 12¹/₂: 1¹/₂: 86



Changing Needs of Veterans

Seniors Health





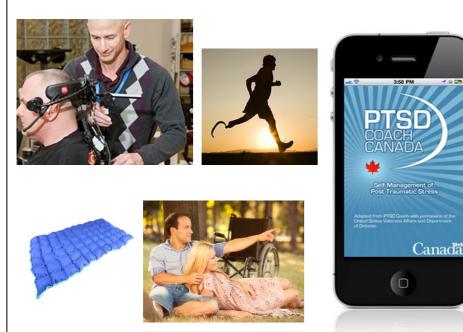






Changing Needs of Veterans

- Vets deployed in Afghanistan (example):
- TBI, PTSD, chronic pain





WWI Vets in Rehab

S&EWING

Occupational Therapy started with Veterans

Occupational Therapy - today

Field Nurses & OTs provide In-home Assessments



Occupational Therapy Assessment/Recommendations

Physical, cognitive, mental health status:

- ADL/IADL functioning
- Home safety, accessibility
- Personal care needs
- Mobility, transfers, skin integrity
- Community access needs

\rightarrow EQUIPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS



Program of Choice (POC)

Categories of Equipment Funded by VAC:

- POC 1: ADL aids
- POC 3: Audio hearing aids
- POC 4: Dental
- POC 9: Oxygen
- POC 11: Prosthetics, Orthosis

POC 13: Special Equipment – mobility aids, lifts, ramps, etc

Program of Choice (POC) 1 Aids



Prescribed by Health
 Professional



Veteran uses K-card



Program of Choice (POC) 13 Aids



Prescribed by Health Professional



- Decision for Approval via District Office:
 - < \$5000 = CSA, CM > \$5000 = CSTM

(POC) 13 Aids: Interdisciplinary Team

Veterans Needs + Policy + Safety + Cost Effectiveness



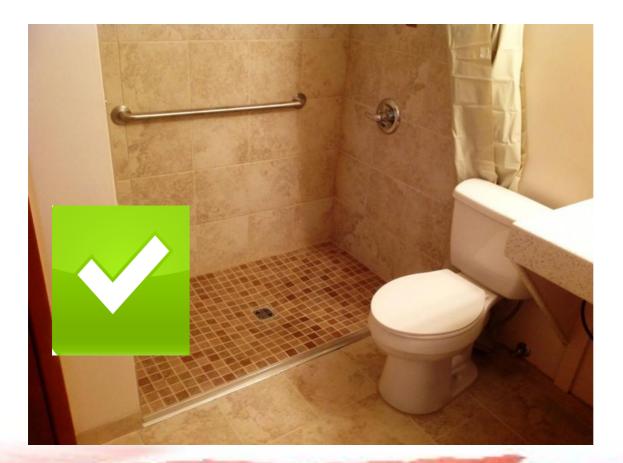
Need vs. Want



Current needs + sustainable solutions



Basic Functional Needs / Materials





Questions?



NCCN: 1-866-522-2122

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Thank You!

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Andrew Campbell District Occupational Therapist Toronto Area Office