## Angelman syndrome (AS)

## **Occupational Therapy (OT)**

Occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants help people participate in the things they want and need to do, through the therapeutic use of everyday activities/occupations, eg. Safe seating in a vehicle, eating with a utensil, pointing at an iPad, etc.

OT interventions include helping people with Angelman syndrome to participate fully in school and social situations, and also those recovering from injury to regain skills. OT services would usually include an individualized evaluation, during which the client/family and occupational therapist determine the person's goals, customized intervention to reach the goals, and an outcomes evaluation to ensure that the goals are being met, and/or make changes to the intervention plan.

This may include comprehensive evaluations of the client's home and other environments (e.g., school), recommendations for adaptive equipment, training in its use, and guidance & education for family members/caregivers. OT practitioners have a holistic perspective, in which the focus is on adapting the environment to fit the person, and the person is an integral part of the therapy team.

 Simple therapy techniques that are helpful for AS individuals/anyone with sensory processing disorders, include: <u>Brushing used with joint compression</u> <u>protocol</u>

<u>Conductive Education</u> is a holistic early intervention approach: General info on Conductive Ed in NZ