



## Project Title:

# The Person-Environment-Occupation (PEO) e-system: An interactive resource in occupational therapy undergraduate teaching

## Name/s:

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## Project Description:

PEO ( Person-Environment-Occupation) is a model used in occupational therapy undergraduate teaching. Each area incorporates key descriptors and is used to formulate a treatment plan. The current use of this model involves students demonstrating an understanding of the relationship between People, their Environment and Occupations. The major goal of the development of the PEO e-system is to develop students' thinking skills in a professional "virtual" context and to explore the inter-relationship of the PEO variables. Students actively engage with videos, pictures, and various client information and then construct a problem list and treatment plan. In doing so, students can refine their clinical reasoning and critical thinking skills in order to:

- understand the influence of physical and social environments on people with disabilities, and their interactions with human occupations
- apply the PEO model as approach to viewing occupational performances, and into case management

## Project Objectives:

- (1) To develop an interactive resource (e-system) to enhance students understanding of the PEO model and its key relationship within occupational therapy;
- (2) To enhance the student learning experience in occupational therapy through development of this e-learning resource.

## Project Deliverable/s:

An initial fabrication of the PEO scenario with in-kind support from EDC	Nov 2006
Pilot use of the Prototype Interactive PEO e-system to students	Feb to Mar 2007
Evaluation of the pilot scheme by means of questionnaires with staff from EDC	Mar to July 2007
Implementation of the new PEO system to students	21 Feb, 17 April, 24 April 08
Online student feedback evaluation	April 08 – July 08
Extension of the project for website improvement work	1 Aug - 30 Sept 08
End of project	30 Sept 08

The intended learning outcomes from the use of the PEO e-system are that students should develop:

- an understanding of the inter-relationship of the PEO variables in the PEO model
- abilities in the development of a treatment plan based on an understanding of the PEO variables
- critical thinking and clinical reasoning in relation to the PEO model by means of writing up a problem list and an action plan

## Project Benefits / Challenges:

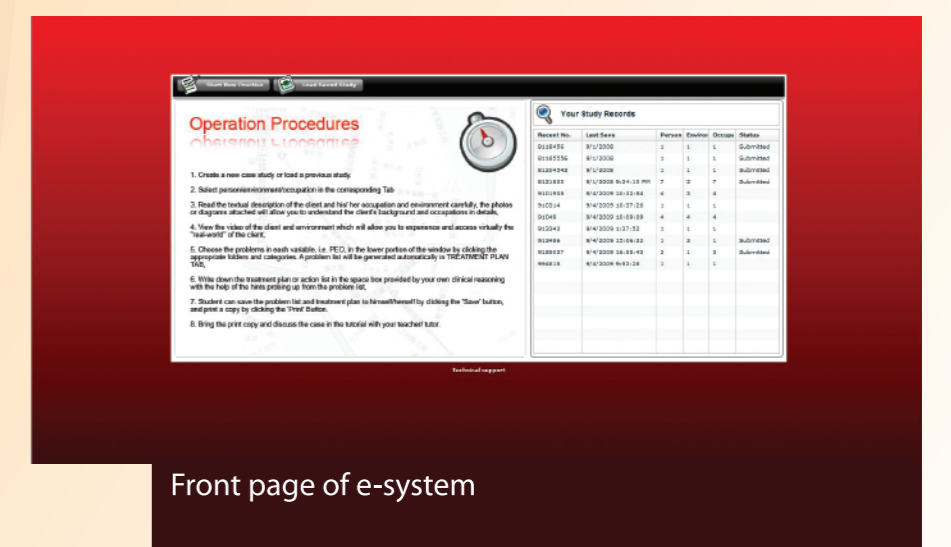
The challenges of the PEO e-system include the effective integration of this model in teaching environmental issues for disabilities. The ideal learning scenario is for students to conceptualize the abstract relationship of PEO within a real-world context. For e.g.; a site visit to a patient's home to see the actual constraints of the living place, interview with the patient to know about his / her disability and existing capacity, visit to his / her place of work. This is not-possible for most classes or within the classroom. Also, given the number of students it would be highly intrusive on the personal lives of patients.

The PEO e-system helps to overcome the challenge for teaching environmental issues for disabilities. It was successfully implemented for 2 years (including the pilot scheme) and will be used continuously for the coming years.

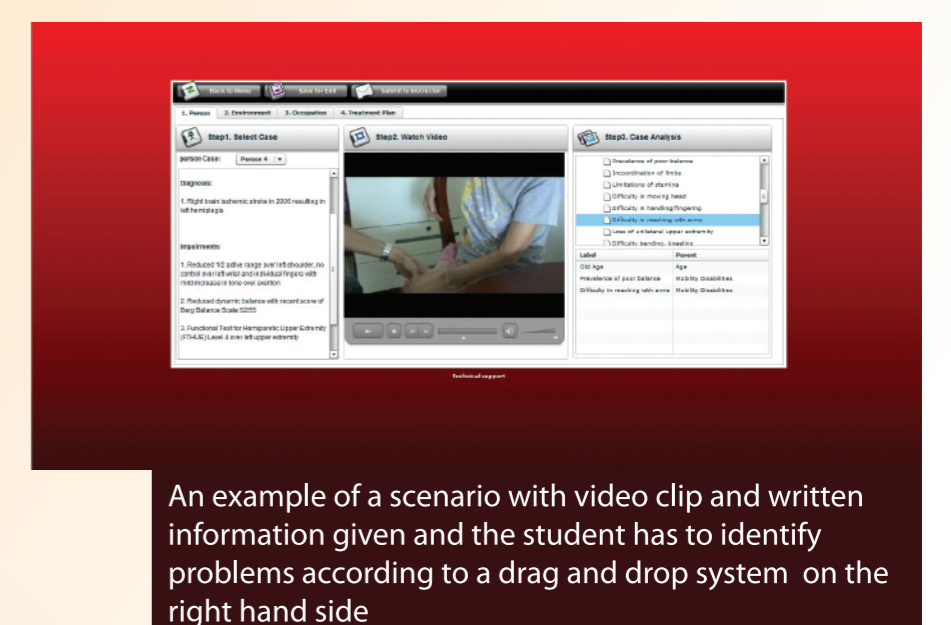
## Project Evaluation:

According to the results of the Online Student Survey by EDC in April 2008:

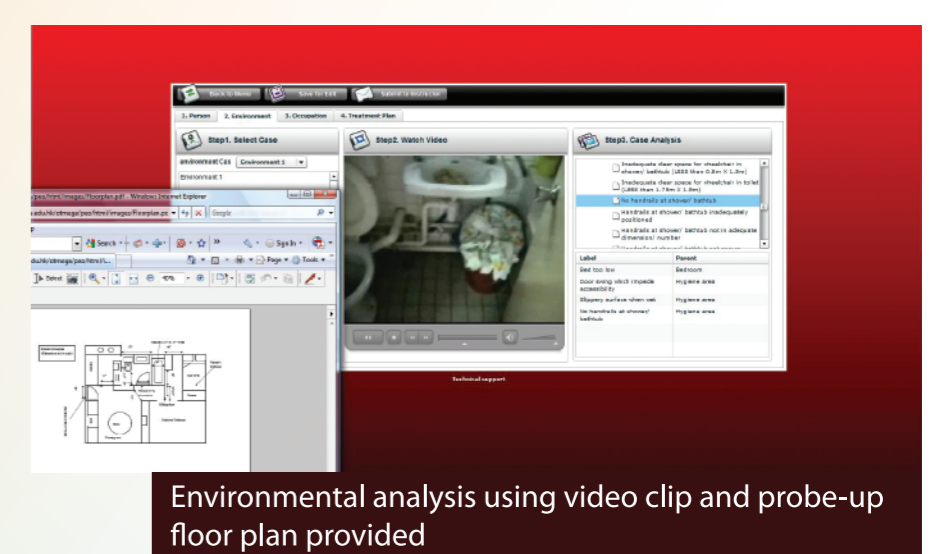
- (1) The majority of students (80+ %) agreed that the e-system provided them with a better understanding of the relationship, transaction, or matching of the three areas: Person (P), Environment (E) and Occupation (O) and assisted them in identifying problems as well as developing a treatment plan through the system interface.
- (2) Most students (70+%) agreed that the e-system provided a virtual environment which bridged the gap between classroom teaching and real world situations and the use of real-life photos and videos enhanced their motivation to use this e-system.
- (3) Students believe that e-learning generally was an effective way for them to learn the subject content and was helpful to them, but it should only be used as part of the teaching methods and should not substitute the traditional way of teaching.



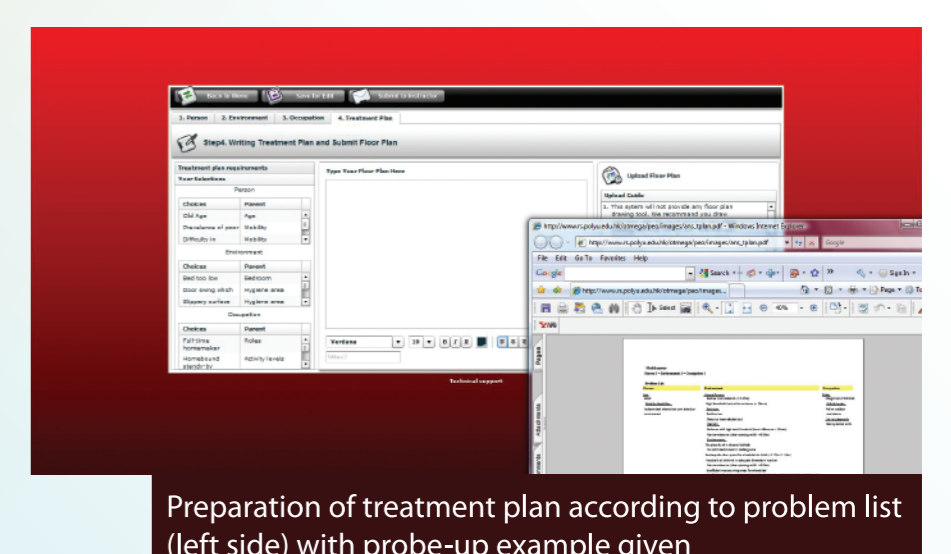
Front page of e-system



An example of a scenario with video clip and written information given and the student has to identify problems according to a drag and drop system on the right hand side



Environmental analysis using video clip and probe-up floor plan provided



Preparation of treatment plan according to problem list (left side) with probe-up example given