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A National Job Analysis of the Professional Art Therapist

June 2008

Conducted for the
Art Therapy Credentials Board

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report describes the procedures followed in the job analysis conducted for the Art Therapy Credentials Board (ATCB) by The Center for Credentialing and Education, Inc. (CCE) in 2007/2008. The purpose of this analysis was to describe the job tasks performed by professional art therapist. The resulting examination framework will be used for the continued development of a professional, job-related licensure certification examination.

The ATCB Job Analysis Advisory Committee (AC) conducted the activities necessary to identify the job tasks which were the basis for the job analysis survey and the subsequent test framework for the Art Therapy Credentials Board Examination. The AC members were identified through nomination by the ATCB. All AC members were experts in the duties and activities associated with the profession. The AC was responsible for the following activities regarding job analysis survey development:

- a. identifying job tasks,
- b. developing a sampling plan,
- c. establishing the survey rating scales, and
- d. determining the demographic variables.

The draft job analysis survey was distributed to all AC members via the utilization of an internet based web form. Based on comments from the AC the survey instrument was modified and the final survey was created for distribution to stratified sample of ATCB certificant holders.

One thousand eight hundred thirty seven surveys were disseminated to potential respondents in October, 2007 with a completion date of not later than November 8, 2007. Individuals responding could do so via the enclosed paper survey form or they could submit their responses via the internet. There were four hundred ninety-nine usable surveys completed, and most were done using the paper form. Two hundred sixty-eight surveys were returned either incomplete, past the extended deadline, or not deliverable.

The respondents were asked to provide demographic data and too evaluate 137 tasks, 44 clinical issues, and 23 theoretical approaches. More than 97% of the respondents felt the job task list and clinical issues adequately or completely addressed the responsibilities of the professional art therapist. Summary statistics were computed for the demographic data. The task ratings, clinical issues, and theoretical approaches were summarized and a factor analysis performed.

Virtually all of the components of the tasks, clinical issues, and theoretical approaches were rated as important and frequently performed by the professional art therapist. Of the combined 160 original survey tasks and theoretical approaches, 21 (10.29%) were excluded. Therefore, the examination content outline was constructed from the 139 remaining items, and will be used by the ATCB Certification Committee in assembling examinations.