

# AMMIT CLAPP HOSPITAL

## Introduction

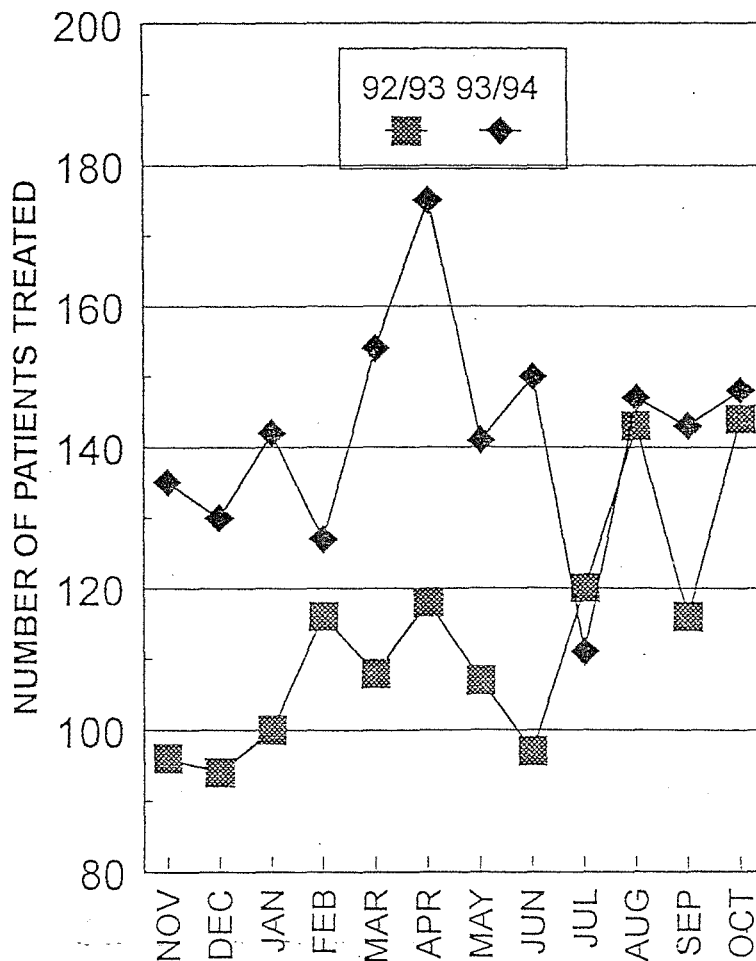
### Recent developments and changes in the Hospital and the OT Department

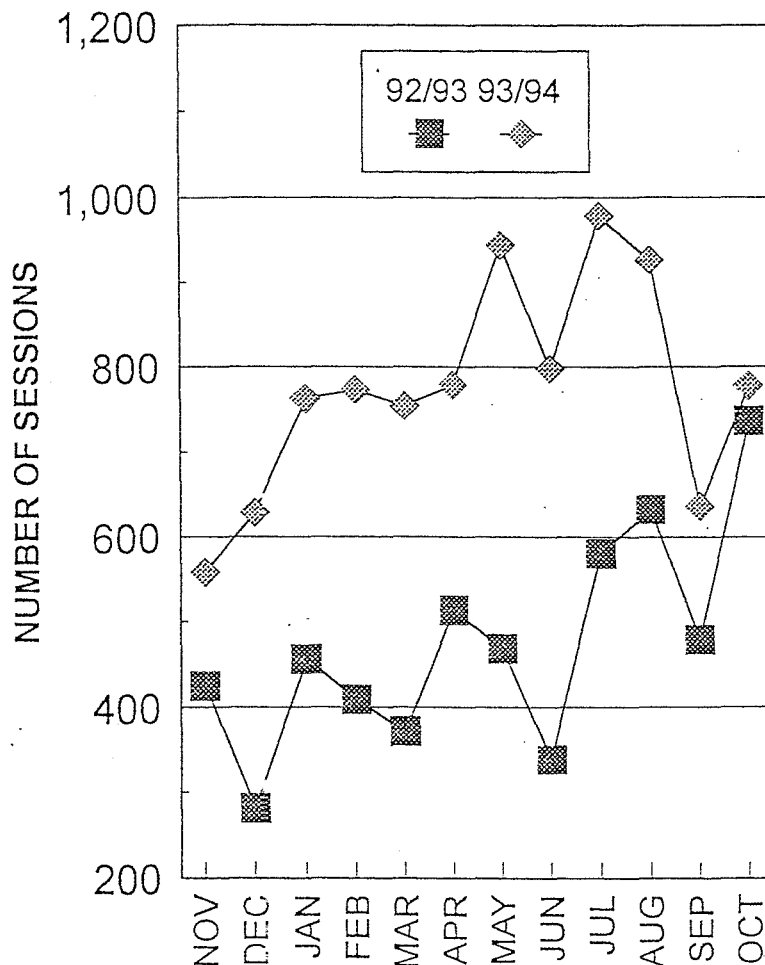
Zammit Clapp Hospital (ZCH) since its opening in October 1991, has seen various developments and changes. As was written in the first article, the hospital was in the process of increasing its in-patient bed occupancy from 50 - 60 beds and this has been achieved with the opening of St. Julian's Ward, a third ward.

The out patient service has increased with the number of daily attendance of patients as well as its global community support services. The OT department has also seen various changes, i.e. an increase in number of qualified staff since November 1993 from one full-timer and one part-timer to four full-time OT's and three part-timers assisted by the previous three OT Aides.

Cynthia Scerri, O.T. in charge  
Zammit Clapp Hospital

Statistics showing the increase in OT services due to the newly added staff can be seen in the graphs that follow.





## The OT Department

An extension of the OT department is planned to cater for a therapeutic workshop which will include a wheelchair clinic, a splinting area, pottery, woodwork, art and horticultural activities area. The aim of this workshop will be specifically therapeutic to aid in the rehabilitation of the patient in his/her particular condition. An extra area on St. Mary Ward is being shared with the physiotherapists for treatment implementations.

## A Survey

The OT, physiotherapy and social work department felt the necessity for a home visit

survey to analyze the efficiency and effectiveness of home visits. This is planned to:

1. Assess the patients and their carers' compliance to recommendations made on the home visit prior to discharge.
2. The positive or negative effects of the above, i.e. whether recommendations were implemented or not.
3. Assess whether community support systems are effective.
4. Whether being given the recommendations and community support has aided in the prevention of permanent admission into an institution or home.
5. Cost effectiveness of each home visit (i.e. the number of professionals involved,

administration, time consumed, average duration of each home visit and transportation cost).

## **The OT Aides**

The necessity was felt to formulate an OT Aide assessment to be carried out regularly in order to ascertain professionalism and upkeep of standards. A copy of the progress reports for the OT Aides is included at the end of this article.

Inservice training is carried out frequently for the OT Aides in various areas e.g. handling and transferring techniques, safety measures and precautions, ADL techniques, observation skills and reporting.

## **General In-Service Training:**

The hospital organizes inservice training for all the staff including fire drills, first aid courses, administration of medication, etc. There are also regular lectures carried out regarding the geriatric field.

Two short term inservice courses were organized by the OT and Physiotherapy Departments for nursing staff regarding handling and management of stroke and orthopaedic patients. Actual hands-on handling and practice was performed during these lecture workshops and handouts were given to complement these lessons.

According to the needs felt, sessions are organized intra-departmentally for the qualified staff to keep updating and upgrading their OT knowledge.

On the initiative of the OT department, various agencies too were contacted to obtain awareness of the more recent equipment available on the market.

## **Courses for the Elderly:**

Regular courses have been carried out for our elderly regarding healthy eating and nutrition, hygiene, safety, safety in the kitchen and aids and equipment available to promote independence.

The first course was done in the form of short mimes accompanied by narration to demonstrate the use of equipment and practical hints in a daily setting. The second course was different in that it took an open discussion form accompanied by visual aids.

The turnout of attendances was satisfactory and positive feedback was given, thus encouraging further and future similar courses.

## **Conclusion:**

Zammit Clapp Hospital is committed to keep up standards of the running of the hospital itself as well as its staff, in order to ensure that our elderly patients gain the maximal professional support in order to continue to live in their own homes together with their family and friends.

## PROGRESS REPORTS

1.	Understand role of O.T aide.				
2.	Is able to communicate with patient in a pleasant, effective manner.				
3.	Carries out delegated tasks efficiently.				
4.	Is responsible and can work on own initiative without overstepping capabilities.				
5.	Communicates with staff in a pleasant manner, being assertive but not overpowering.				
6.	Can be trusted with patients by ensuring safety, comfort and care during handling and treatment sessions.				
7.	Knows ADL techniques and is able to teach patient by practise sessions.				
8.	Works well with other team members.				
9.	Can write reports to pass information to other staff, keep records, update and make appropriate noting of all equipment being loaned out.				
10.	Assists in maintaining a safe, clean environment.				
11.	Is aware of the roles of other staff members.				
12.	Is responsible when taking leave / sick leave special leave and is punctual.				
13.	Personal appearance.				