



THE AMERICAN  
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
FOUNDATION

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## **BOARDS ADOPT OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY RESEARCH PANEL REPORT**

**October 31, 2009**

Bethesda, Maryland – During their most recent board meetings, Directors of the American Occupational Therapy Foundation (AOTF) and the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) voted to adopt research priorities identified by the Research Advisory Panel, a group of experts appointed by the two organizations in 2007 to provide strategic research recommendations for the profession of occupational therapy. The panel is currently chaired by Joan Rogers, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, of the University of Pittsburgh.

The Occupational Therapy Research Agenda, as the report is titled, provides valuable guidance that will be helpful to clinical scientists and our two organizations as we plan and undertake research initiatives to support occupational therapy practice" said AOTA President Dr. Penelope Moyers, and AOTF President Ruth Ann Watkins in a joint statement.

The report of the panel is viewed as an important step in pursuing AOTA's Centennial Vision, a set of aspirational goals established in 2004 to advance the profession for its second century of service in American health care.

The American Occupational Therapy Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) charitable, scientific and educational organization established in 1965. Its mission is to advance research, education, and leadership in the field of occupational therapy and to raise public awareness of the importance of enabling individuals to participate fully in life regardless of their physical, social, mental, or developmental circumstances. For more information, go to [www.aotf.org](http://www.aotf.org).

Founded in 1917, the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) represents the interests and concerns of more than 140,000 occupational therapists, assistants and students nationwide. The Association educates the public and advances the profession of occupational therapy by providing resources, setting standards including accreditation and serving as an advocate to improve health care. Based in Bethesda, MD., AOTA's major programs and activities are directed toward promoting the professional development of its members and assuring consumer access to quality services so patients can maximize their individual potential. For more information, go to [www.aota.org](http://www.aota.org).