AOTF Research Resources

Fall Greetings to Research Resources colleagues!

In June, I presented at the World Federation of Occupational Therapists Congress in Yokahama, Japan. I was truly amazed at the skills of the interpreters who provided translation for many of the sessions. Although we commonly associate the word, translation, with languages, one dictionary definition of translation is the “the process of changing something from one form to another.” This definition fits well with the goal of recent initiatives to translate findings from research into interventions that improve the health of people. In research, translation has been defined as “the process of turning observations in the laboratory and clinic into interventions that improve the health of individuals and the public—from diagnostics and therapeutics to medical procedures and behavioral changes” and translation science is “the field of investigation focused on understanding the scientific and operational principles underlying each step of the translational process” (http://www.ncats.nih.gov/research/cts/cts.html).

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) recognized that knowledge translation requires focused strategies related to collaboration, innovation and dissemination and thus, added the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) as its newest Institute. In 2006, The Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) program was launched to create academic centers for translational science, provide supports to researchers and their partners, and train scientists in clinical and translational research. There are currently 61 institutions in 31 states in the CTSA consortium. The NCATS and members of the CTSA consortium provide valuable research resources that include webinars, online newsletters, funding opportunities, and other clinical research tools. For example, CTSpedia provides resources on biostatistics, ethics, research design, data management, grants and recruitment.

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AOTF will celebrate its 50th Anniversary at the AOTA 2015 Annual Conference.
Translational research is also a priority area in occupational therapy research and one of the research categories in the 2011 AOTF/AOTA Research Agenda. Occupational therapy has had growing involvement in clinical and translational science and specific CTSA programs. Our researchers have contributed as CTSA research team members, received funding from CTSA grants, participated in training opportunities sponsored by the CTSA programs, and published research that is aligned with translational research priorities. But there are additional opportunities for us to get the word out about clinical and translational science and raise awareness of occupational therapy contributions.

Our Intervention Research Grant (IRG) Program encourages translational research by enabling researchers to lay the foundation for larger intervention studies and future funding. The NCATS states it takes about 14 years to develop an effective intervention and additional years before it is routinely used in practice. We hope you will make an investment in the AOTF IRG Program to help accelerate the development of effective occupational therapy interventions that support practice. The profession and people we serve will realize the dividends from your support. The online donation site at www.aotf.org is always open.

We invite our readers to submit research opportunities to our Communications Associate Helene Ross for publication in the next edition of Research Resources. As always, we thank you for the news alerts you share with us, your ideas on ways we can improve this monthly newsletter, and your financial support of AOTF.

Warm regards,

Julie D. Bass, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
Associate Director, Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health
Director of Research

Resource Notes:

Clinical and Translational Science

Before looking at the published results of a selection of research funded in some part by a Clinical and Translational Science Center/Institute (CATSC/I) or the National Center for Advancing Translational Science (NCATS), you may want to read Dr. Lin's comments on behalf of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) to NCATS. Additional readings that lay out the difficulties in translating research findings into practice, as well as the importance for doing so are in Cramm, White & Krupa (2013); Clark, Park & Burke (2013) and Gillin (2013). The latter two articles were published in the March/April 2013 issue of the American Journal of Occupational Therapy (AJOT), a special issue on the Accelerating Clinical Trials and Outcomes Research (ACTOR) Conference, an AOTA/AOTF joint effort. To view videos of the presentations at ACTOR, visit http://vimeo.com/album/1834514.

The remaining articles are, as noted above, a selection of studies supported in part by NCATS or a CATSC/I. They were retrieved in one of two ways. First by a Google search: “Clinical and Translational Science” and “occupational therapy,” which pointed to various centers, announcements of...
awards, and published papers. Second, by entering in the PubMed/MEDLINE search box “NCATS and occupational therapy.” My criteria for selecting this particular group were: (1) to show research from a variety of areas of study; (2) to highlight researchers from different universities to include recent publications; (3) to call your attention to the wide variety of scholarly periodicals in which the studies were published; and (4) to include recent publications.

In exploring this topic, I discovered the journal CTS: Clinical and Translational Science, published by Wiley. Perhaps this is another venue for publishing and promoting studies on the effectiveness of occupational therapy interventions.

Bibliography
Mary Binderman, MSLS
The Wilma L West Library
American Occupational Therapy Foundation

Funding Opportunities

Promobilia Foundation Grants Available
The aim of the Promobilia Foundation is to promote the development of technical aids so that disabled persons may benefit from a more active life. The Foundation supports research and development of technical aids as well as programs that ensure they get into production and reach the needy. The goal of proposed projects must be to improve the condition of disabled persons in a way that fits the rules of the Foundation. Application deadline: October 10, 2014.

Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Fall Funding Cycle Opens
PCORI Funding Application System opens August 6, 2014. PCORI has approved 313 awards to advance patient-centered comparative clinical effectiveness research projects to date. Several improvements to the funding announcements have been made.

AAHD Frederick J. Krause Scholarship on Health and Disability
The American Association on Health and Disability created this scholarship for undergraduate (junior/senior status) and graduate students with disabilities who are majoring in a field related to disability and health. Applications are due November 15, 2014.

Justus Lehmann Research Grant Application
The Foundation for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation is now accepting applications for research related to biomechanics/biophysics in the field of physical medicine and rehabilitation. One grant of $10,000 will be made. All applications must be postmarked by November 1, 2014.

Editorial
OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health Now Indexed by the National Library of Medicine
Kathleen Matuska, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Feature Articles
Translation and Cross-Cultural Adaptation of the Perceived Efficacy and Goal Setting System (PEGS): Results from the First Austrian-German PEGS Version Exploring Meaningful Activities for Children
Ursula M. Costa, MA (OT), PhD (PH)

Family Caregiving for Husbands with Stroke: An Occupational Perspective on Leisure in the Stress Process
Kathy Kniepmann, OTD, MPH, EdM, OTR/L, CHES

What Is Occupational Therapy’s Role In Addressing Sleep Problems Among Older Adults?
Natalie E. Leland, PhD, OTR/L, BCG, FAOTA; Nicole Marcione, BS; Stacey L. Schepens Niemiec, PhD, OTR/L; Kaivalya Kelkar, MA; Don Fogelberg, PhD, OTR/L

Alison M. Cogan, MA, OTR/L

The Correlation Between Physical Activity and Grade Point Average for Health Science Graduate Students
Eugenia C. Gonzalez, PhD, OTR; Erika C. Hernandez, OTR/L; Ambrosia K. Coltrane, OTR/L; Jayme M. Mancera, OTR/L
Post-Doctoral Training Program in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research
The Waisman Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is recruiting post-doctoral trainees for its NIH-funded Post-Doctoral Training Program in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research. Appointments will be for 2 years beginning in the summer or fall of 2015. The program provides multidisciplinary training in social, epidemiological, behavioral, and biobehavioral research on intellectual and developmental disabilities. Its emphasis is on understanding social, affective, communicative, and family processes as they relate to intellectual and developmental disabilities. They are seeking candidates who are committed to a research career in intellectual and developmental disabilities, have completed prior research and training in the field, and have an outstanding academic record. Apply by January 15, 2015.

Veterans Program at Colorado State University
The New Start for Student Veterans program at the Colorado State University provides educational and community-based supports for post-9/11 veterans with significant disabilities seeking college degrees. A comprehensive research and development program has been initiated which integrates evidence-based intervention programs fostering resilience and enhanced academic and participation outcomes for student veterans. In offering a PhD in Occupation and Rehabilitation Science, the Department of Occupational Therapy faculty intend to integrate occupational science and rehabilitation science: two highly synergistic academic areas. For more information see the program flyer and direct inquiries to Dr. Aaron M. Eakman. Application deadline: February 2, 2015 but applicants are encouraged to apply early.

Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapy Doctoral Fellowship
This interdisciplinary PhD program in Occupation and Rehabilitation Science at Colorado State University focuses on the study of human performance and participation in everyday occupations and contexts across the lifespan. This mentored doctoral fellowship will support in-depth immersion of a doctoral student in the study of the efficacy of equine-assisted activities and therapy in relationship to participation in everyday occupations. Applicants are asked to contact Dr. Wendy Wood in advance of the February 1, 2015 deadline.

Other Resources
Building Capacity to Reduce Bullying - Workshop Summary
On April 9-10, 2014, the Board on Children, Youth, and Families of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) and the National Research Council (NRC) held a 2-day workshop titled "Building Capacity to Reduce Bullying and Its Impact on Youth Across the Lifecourse." The purpose of this workshop was to bring together representatives of key sectors involved in bullying prevention to identify the conceptual models and interventions that have proven effective in decreasing bullying, to examine models that could increase protective factors and mitigate the negative effects of bullying, and to explore the appropriate roles of different groups in preventing bullying. The workshop report is available online.

University of Michigan Course on Clinical Research Management Capacity
This online course on clinical research management capacity and success will prepare its participants to assist investigators in developing and conducting clinical research studies, both investigator-initiated and industry-sponsored. This course begins October 15. Contact questions.
Occupational Therapy Research Coordinators Forum
This forum is looking for occupational therapists working in clinical research to add to our growing email list. The purpose of the forum is to have a mechanism for communicating with other individuals in similar positions, with the hope that we will be able to help each other solve common problems and identify future opportunities for collaboration. Contact Kelly Tanner to join the forum.

Women of Color Research Network
WoCRn offers support, information, and networking opportunities to women from diverse backgrounds, their mentors, and others in the research community. The network is for women of color as well as everyone who values diversity in the scientific workforce. Started in 2011 by the Women of Color Committee of the NIH Working Group on Women in Biomedical Careers, it's already up to 1,200 members. Submitted by AOTA.

Free Webinars on TBI and Psychological Health
The Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) hosts free monthly webinars on topics related to psychological health and TBI. See their website for more information and a list of all 2014 webinars.

Conference Announcements

Mobile Health in Rehabilitation Conference (October 24, 2014, Boston, Massachusetts)
This conference, sponsored by the Boston Rehabilitation Outcomes Measurement Center (Boston ROC), seeks to promote the use of mobile health technologies to measure rehabilitation outcomes. The conference brings together mobile health technology experts and rehabilitation researchers to develop and implement advanced measurement applications appropriate for rehabilitation. This conference is intended for health care providers and administrators, researchers, engineers and developers of mobile health technology, and academicians. Attendance is limited to 100 participants, so we recommend that you register early. Registration is free; the deadline is October 10, 2014.

Healthography: How where you live affects your health and well-being.

International Stroke Conference (February 11-13, 2015, Nashville, Tennessee)
The International Stroke Conference features more than 1,500 presentations that emphasize basic, clinical and translational sciences as they evolve toward a more complete understanding of stroke pathophysiology with the overall goal of developing more effective prevention and treatment.

AOTA Annual Conference (April 16-19, 2015, Nashville, Tennessee)
Join thousands of OT colleagues for educational sessions and institutes.

Pacific Rim International Conference (May 18-19, 2015, Waikiki, Hawaii)
The Pacific Rim International Conference, encourages and respects voices from “diverse” perspective across numerous areas, including: voices from persons representing all disability areas; experiences of family members and supporters across all disability and diversity areas; responsiveness to diverse cultural and language differences; evidence of researchers and academics studying diversity and disability; stories of persons providing powerful lessons; examples of program providers, and; action plans to meet human and social needs in a globalized world. In 2015, new topic areas will promote thoughtful discussion and suggest new ways to integrate education, technology, advocacy, activism and interdisciplinary research.

Resource Notes Continued


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About Us

AOTF is a 501(c)(3) dedicated to advancing the science of occupational therapy to support people's full participation in meaningful life activities. Gifts to AOTF help us make a real difference through:

- Scholarships
- Research support including the Intervention Research Grants program
- Maintenance of the largest collection of occupational therapy resources in the country, the Wilma L. West Library.

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For more information about the American Occupational Therapy Foundation and its Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health, see our web site: www.aotf.org.