



1965-2015

Celebrating fifty years of advancing the science of occupational therapy

September 2014

AOTF Research Resources



September Greetings to *Research Resources* colleagues!

Part of my role as Director of Research entails tracking trends in research that are relevant for occupational therapy. This is no small task as you might imagine! We rely on regular input from our scientists and continually scan the horizon for new occupational therapy research opportunities.

In 2010, Title XI of the Social Security Act was amended to include the establishment of the [Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute](#) (PCORI) and designate funding for clinical comparative effectiveness research. PCORI has a mission to improve health care through "producing and promoting high integrity, evidence-based information that comes from research guided by patients, caregivers and the broader healthcare community." Five priorities for patient-centered outcomes research were established: assessment of prevention, diagnosis, and treatment options, improving healthcare systems, communication and dissemination research, addressing disparities, and accelerating patient-centered outcomes research and methodological research. PCORI funding supports proposals that have the highest scientific quality, are most patient-centered, and include patients and caregivers at all stages of the research. Letters of Intent for the next cycle of PCORI grants are due in March, 2015.

PCORI has extraordinary levels of funding targeted for patient-centered research. However, the payline (percentile-based cut-off point for funded research based on projected number of applications for the available funds) is about 10%. Thus, investigators must do their homework to submit a competitive proposal. PCORI has various training opportunities for investigators; some opportunities are specific to PCORI

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while others would be helpful in other research projects as well (e.g., Promising Practices of Meaningful Engagement in the Conduct of Research). This issue of *Research Resources* has information on [PCORI's Online Application Training Tutorial](#) scheduled for September 19.

Occupational therapy has had growing involvement and interest in the PCORI program. Dr. Janet Poole, University of New Mexico, (a 2008 inductee into the AOTF Academy of Research) was awarded over \$1.7 million dollars for her three-year project, [Taking Charge of Systemic Sclerosis: Improving Patient Outcomes Through Self-Management](#). PCORI also has other ways to get involved in [patient-centered outcomes research](#), including 1) professional and lay reviewers for research applications, 2) ambassador programs, 3) research question submissions, 4) advisory panels, and 5) webinar workshops. The American Occupational Therapy Association is planning to offer a session on PCORI at the 2015 Annual Conference and Exposition in Nashville, Tennessee.

Our [Intervention Research Grant \(IRG\) Program](#) encourages patient-centered outcomes research by enabling researchers to lay the foundation for larger intervention studies and future funding through programs like PCORI. We hope you will make an investment in this AOTF initiative by providing financial support to the IRG Program. 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
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Resource Notes:

Patient-Centered Outcomes Research

These selected articles demonstrate that occupational therapy practitioners and researchers are ready to become active participants in patient-centered outcomes research. Patient-centered outcome measures are in place and have been validated (Carlson, et al., 2013; Dür, et al., 2014; Enemark Larsen & Carlsson, G, 2012; Eyssen, ICJM, et al., 2011, Garcia, et al., 2014; and Laverdure, 2011). Studies dependent on the reported outcomes and/or selected goals of patients, parents, caregivers, or spouses have been completed (Areberg & Bejerholm, 2013; Custer, et al., 2013; Kniepmann, 2014; Kniepmann & Cupler, 2014; Miller, et al., 2013; Nalder et al., 2012; Reinseth, et al., 2012; and Schepens, et al., 2012). Fieldhouse (2012) and Hancock and colleagues (2012) collaborate with patients/consumers in their studies.



AOTF will celebrate its 50th Anniversary at the AOTA 2015 Annual Conference.

Watch for details of a Nashville bus and walking tour on Wednesday April 15, Breakfast with a Scholar and State of the Science on Friday, April 17 and our celebratory Gala in the Conservatory of the Country Music Hall of Fame, Friday evening, April 17.

OTJR Seeks Articles

[OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health](#), a peer-reviewed journal, encourages submission of original research reports of assessment/measurement development, efficacy of interventions (preventive, restorative, and compensatory), intervention outcomes, translational research, and basic research (including occupational science). *OTJR* is now indexed in MEDLINE/PubMed.

OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health: Summer 2014

OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health, published quarterly by the American Occupational Therapy Foundation, Inc.,

offers original research articles of professional interest to the practicing OT with a focus on occupation and fostering interdisciplinary research. Visit: [OTJR Online](#).

Editorial

[OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health Now Indexed by the National](#)

[Read more.](#)

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

Funding Opportunities

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**.

[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

[Occupational Needs and Intervention Strategies for Military Personnel with Mild Traumatic Brain Injury and Persistent Post-Concussion Symptoms: A Review](#)

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

Doctoral, Post-Doctoral and Research Training Opportunities

Post- doctoral Fellows -- Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH)

[HSPH is seeking applicants](#) for a two-year post-doctoral position in work disability prevention/return to work research, starting in the summer or fall of 2015. They will soon be accepting applicants through a very similar program based at the University of Massachusetts / Lowell (UML). Post-doctoral researchers conduct ergonomics, safety, injury epidemiology, or disability and return to work research in close collaboration with injury research scientists at the at the Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety in Hopkinton, Massachusetts and with the Harvard ERC faculty in the HSPH. Duties include data collection and analysis, publishing in the peer-reviewed literature, participating in seminars and work groups, and collaborating on research grant applications.

Applications for the Harvard program are due by September 15, 2014.

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.

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Other Resources

Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Resources

PCORI offers archived resources and online training materials on a variety of topics for applicants. Programs include the PCORI online application and a training tutorial.

- [Applicant training](#) for the Fall, 2014 cycle of priority funding areas (PFA) <http://www.pcori.org/funding-opportunities/funding-announcements/applicant-training/>: Available September, 22, 2014.
- [Webinars](#)
 - Translating Research into Practice: Using AHRQ and PCORI Evidence-Based Research for Nursing Practice, September 10, 2:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m. (EDT)
 - PCORI in Practice: Highlighting Opportunities for Medical Specialty Societies, September 11, 1:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m. (ET)

Resources from the Center for Rehabilitation Outcomes Research

[The Rehabilitation Measures Database \(RMD\)](#) is used by thousands of clinicians and investigators around the world every month to find the best way to measure rehabilitation outcomes in patients with a variety of conditions such as spinal cord injury, stroke, and brain injury. Researchers at the Center for Rehabilitation Outcomes Research (CROR), in partnership with clinicians at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago (RIC), created the database with funding from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research. [Outcome Measurement Teaching Modules](#) have been developed by researchers and clinicians. These modules form the base of a measurement course designed for rehabilitation professionals. The examples used in these modules focus on Occupational & Physical Therapy outcome measures.

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.

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Conference Announcements

Specialty Conference: Effective Documentation - The Key to Payment & Articulating Our Distinct Value (September 12-13, 2014, Alexandria, Virginia)

For more information see the [AOTA web site](#).

American Society of Hand Therapists (ASHT) Annual Meeting (September 18-20, 2014, Boston, Massachusetts)

With a theme of [Tradition Meets Tomorrow](#),

this program will consider how our past will inform our future: from traditional concepts to new ideas, evidence-based practice to clinical application.

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.

American Public Health Association: 2014 Annual Meeting and Exposition (November 15-19, 2014, New Orleans, Louisiana)

[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.

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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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