

Research Resources

A monthly newsletter of the

AOTF Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health

November 2009

Dear Colleagues:

This month's newsletter highlights the work of the Research Advisory Panel (RAP) and the Occupational Therapy Research Agenda. The RAP was appointed by the presidents of the American Occupational Therapy Association and the American Occupational Therapy Foundation in 2007 to provide expert guidance on strategic directions for research in the profession. Their report has been adopted by the boards of the two organizations.

The Occupational Therapy Research Agenda

The Occupational Therapy Research Agenda, identifies priority areas for research and makes some specific recommendations for meeting goals contained in the profession's Centennial Vision.

The report focuses on intervention/prevention, translational, and health services research. Consistent with these areas of focus, AOTF and AOTA will partner on a drive to support a multicenter study of intervention.

Download the [Occupational Therapy Research Agenda](#) from the AOTF website.

In future issues of *Research Resources*, we will introduce some initiatives to support work in areas identified by the Research Agenda. As always, we welcome your suggestions on how the AOTF can better support efforts to achieve the scientific goals in the Centennial Vision.

Sincerely,



Charles Christiansen
Executive Director
Acting Director, Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health

Support occupational therapy research by making a secure online donation [here](#).

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[The American Association on Health and Disability Extends Scholarship Deadline](#)

The AAHD extended the deadline for applications for its scholarships to **November 15, 2009**. The scholarships will help undergraduate and graduate students with disabilities pursue higher education in the field of public health, health promotion, disability studies or disability research.

[Robert Wood Johnson Foundation \(RWJF\) and Pew Project Addresses Commission's Health Impact Recommendation](#)

The project, [The Health Impact Project](#), has issued a [call for proposals](#) to demonstrate the effectiveness of health impact assessments and promote their use in local, state, tribal and federal decision-making. Grants for \$25,000 to \$150,000 will be awarded on a rolling basis for up to 15 health impact assessment demonstration projects

[January 13, 2010, Chicago, Illinois\)](#)

The University of Illinois at Chicago in cooperation with the American Occupational Therapy Association present a unique opportunity to learn from and exchange views with three leaders in mental health occupational therapy from the United Kingdom (UK). These three leaders will provide an overview of challenges facing mental health practice in the UK and share from their vast experiences, the kind of efforts that can be successful in enhancing the place and contribution of occupational therapy within mental health service delivery. Drawing on their successful experiences, these three leaders will discuss how a vision was developed for enhancing the role of occupational therapy in mental health and provide practical examples of how they set about achieving this vision.

[5th Annual Brain Injury Rehabilitation Conference \(March 26-27, 2010, La Jolla, California\)](#)

Sponsored by the Rehabilitation Center at the Scripps Memorial Hospital, this conference is designed to provide a clear understanding of the need for multidisciplinary strategies in the management of patients with brain injuries. Interdisciplinary specialists from nationally recognized rehabilitation centers will present the latest in research and outcomes from a variety of medical perspectives. Topics will focus on interventions and management for medical and physical rehabilitation, as well as cognitive, emotional, and social challenges common to brain injury.

[26th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disabilities \(April 12 & 13, 2010: Waikiki, Hawai'i\)](#)

The conference will address traditional topics such as developmental and learning disabilities, autism, employment, transition to postsecondary education, independent living, hidden disabilities, and many others. In addition, new topics will foment discussion and change: environmental toxins, disability rights and poverty alleviation, war and disability, gender and ethnicity, and sustainability. There is also a new section called Innovation which will showcase new theories, concepts, solutions, ideas and applications that can benefit people with disabilities during this economic downturn. The [Call for Papers](#) is now open.

[Web-Based & Related Resources](#)

[A New Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) Feature on Disabilities and a New Video on Caregiving](#)

CDC has posted a new feature article on improving the health and wellness of people with disabilities, tips on leading a healthy life, and for getting physically fit. "People with Disabilities Can Lead Long, Healthy Lives " can be seen on [CDC's home page](#) and in a [Spanish version](#). The [new video](#) tells one man's story, experience, and hope with caregiving.

over four and a half years.

Remember AOTF

Think of AOTF when you search the internet or shop online. Use these sites by entering the American Occupational Therapy Foundation and AOTF benefits from every search or purchase!



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[Healthy People 2020 Public Comment Now Open](#)

Send feedback on the proposed objectives for Healthy People 2020. Comments will be accepted through December 31, 2009.

NIDRR Seeks Peer Reviewers

The National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) peer reviewers to evaluate Field Initiated Project (FIP) applications. NIDRR receives more than 200 FIP applications per year. Generally, peer reviewers serve for three-year terms with one review per year. If you are interested please contact [David Keer](#). The standing panels NIDRR uses are: (1) Employment Outcomes; (2) Health and Function; (3) Technology for Access and Function; (4) Participation and Community Living; and (5) Statistics, Outcomes Research, Disability Studies, Rehabilitation Science, and Policy.

Publication Announcements

Initial National Priorities for Comparative Effectiveness Research

In today's healthcare system, patients, physicians, clinicians and family caregivers often lack the sufficient scientific data and evidence they need to determine the best course of treatment for the patients' medical conditions. *Initial National Priorities for Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER)* is designed to fill this knowledge gap by assisting patients and healthcare providers across diverse settings in making more informed decisions. In this 2009 report, which can be read free online, the Institute of Medicine's Committee on Comparative Effectiveness Research Prioritization establishes a working definition of CER, develops a priority list of research topics, and identifies the necessary requirements to support a robust and sustainable CER enterprise. Committee on Comparative Effectiveness Research Prioritization (2009) *Initial National Priorities for Comparative Effectiveness Research* Washington DC: National Academies Press.

[Guidance for Establishing Crisis Standards of Care for Use in Disaster Situations: A Letter Report 2009](#)

Outlining current concepts and offering guidance, this book will prove an asset to state and local public health officials, healthcare facilities, and professionals in the development of systematic and comprehensive policies and protocols for standards of care in disasters where resources are scarce. In addition, the extensive "operations" section of the book provides guidance to clinicians, healthcare institutions, and state and local public health officials for how those crisis standards of care should be implemented in a disaster situation. This report can be read free online. Altevogt, B.M., Stroud, C., Hanson, S.L., Hanfinling, D, Gostin, L.O. (Eds.) *Guidance for Establishing Crisis Standards of Care for Use in Disaster Situation: A Letter Report* (2009) Washington, DC: National Academies Press.

AOTF Institute Image of the Month

From the [Archives of the AOTA](#),
housed in the AOTF Wilma L. West Library.



Irene Hollis, OTR, explaining diagrams of hands in an occupational therapy department workshop, 1976. Hollis co-founded the world's first hand rehabilitation center in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

The AOTF Institute makes this image, as well as the [Guide to the Archives of the AOTA](#), available publicly as part of its mission to honor the past and be the best possible steward of the unique body of knowledge that is occupational therapy. To this end, the AOTF Institute warmly welcomes individuals from within and beyond occupational therapy to explore the guide and use the archives for purposes of research, education, and leadership.

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