



## Greetings to Research Resource Colleagues!

This month's AOTF Research Resources highlights another of our Foundation Research Priorities, "[Emotional and Physiological Influences on Performance and Participation](#)". It is estimated that about 25% of U.S. adults and 20% of U.S. children have a diagnosable mental illness or disorder that affects thinking, mood and behaviors. Mental and behavioral disorders are a leading cause of disability in the U.S. accounting for over 13.5 disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) or years lost to illness, disability, or premature death.

A variety of physiological factors and clinical variables (e.g. fatigue, pain, etc.) have also been linked with function, health outcomes, and quality of life. Emotional and physiological influences on performance and participation have been identified as 1) a critical issue for promoting health and well-being for many conditions and populations, 2) an area in which evidence-based measures and interventions are needed, and 3) perhaps most importantly to the OT profession, an area that is perfectly suited for more involvement by the unique skills of occupational therapy.

We will continue to keep these topics in mind as we seek funding to broaden our research portfolio, and we hope you do the same.

We have just begun our new fiscal year and are still looking for a new [Scientific Programs Officer](#). This position leads the research effort at the Foundation and is uniquely positioned to play an integral role in helping to set the research agenda not only for the Foundation, but for the occupational therapy research community as well. We hope you or a colleague you know might consider joining us as we seek to advance the science of occupational therapy.

Happy October,

Scott Campbell, PhD

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[Nedra Gillette Endowed Research Fellowship applications due October 17, 2016.](#)

Interested in sponsoring AOTF events at the AOTA conference in 2017 including the Breakfast with a Scholar and the State of the Science? Contact [Azalea Candelaria](#).

## OTJR Call for Papers: Special issue on Occupational Therapy and Public Health

[This special issue of OTJR](#) seeks to address three questions:

What is the preventative and protective function of everyday activities in population health?

How does the integration of the principles of occupational therapy and public health improve population health and promote health equity?

## News and Other Resources

### National Academies of Sciences

[Families Caring for an Aging America \(2016\)](#) examines the prevalence and nature of family caregiving of older adults and the available evidence on the effectiveness of programs, supports, and other interventions designed to support family caregivers. This report also assesses and recommends policies to address the needs of family caregivers and to minimize the barriers that they encounter in trying to meet the needs of older adults.

### Emotional and Physiological Influences on Performance and Participation

#### The OT Lens

The "doing of everyday activities" is supported by the function of complex and interacting body systems and positive mental health. Impairments in body function and mental illness may contribute to disabilities and poor health-related quality of life.

Occupational therapy knowledge of the influence of emotional and physiological factors on performance of everyday activities may support development of standard measures and effective interventions to improve function and promote health. Occupational therapy interventions focus on restoring body functions, using strategies to compensate for impairments, and modifying the environment to address the barriers that are limiting performance and participation in everyday activities.

#### Opportunity to Affect Progress

There are a few occupational therapy scientists who are building knowledge related to emotional and physiological influences on performance and participation. However, there is not a coordinated network for occupational therapy research in this area, nor sufficient resources to train more occupational therapy researchers and practitioners.

Information gathered from:

World Health Organization. [Strengthening Mental Health Promotion](#). Geneva, World Health Organization (Fact sheet no. 220), 2001.

[NIMH Statistics:](#)

[Prevalence](http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics/index.shtml) <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics/index.shtml>

[NIMH Statistics: Disability](#).

[NIMH Annual Total Direct and Indirect Costs of Serious Mental Illness \(2002\)](#)

[NIMH Strategic Plan for Research \(2015\)](#)

Wilson, I. B., & Cleary, P. D. (1995). [Linking clinical variables with health-related quality of life](#). *JAMA*, 273(1), 59-65.

Gorecki, C., Brown, J. M., Nelson, E. A., Briggs, M., Schoonhoven, L., Dealey, C., ... & Nixon, J. (2009). Impact of pressure ulcers on quality of life in older patients: a systematic review. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 57(7), 1175-1183.

How does the occupational therapy lens on disability and public health contribute to advances in the Healthy People 2020 'Disability and Health' goal, action steps, and emerging issues?

[Submission deadline: January 30, 2017](#)

[Tentative publication date: Fall 2017](#)

## *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*

[OTJR](#), published quarterly by AOTF, offers original peer-reviewed research articles of professional interest to the practicing OT with a focus on occupation and fostering interdisciplinary research. *OTJR* is now indexed in MEDLINE/PubMed. To download current, past, and future *OTJR* articles – see the [OTJR website](#).

### July 2016

The Sensory Environment and Participation of Preschool Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder  
Aimee Piller and Beth Pfeiffer

Participation in Out-of-Home Environments for Young Children With and Without Developmental Disabilities  
Chun Yi Lim, Mary Law, Mary Khetani, Nancy Pollock, and Peter Rosenbaum

Psychometric Properties of the Functional Capacity Card Sort for Caregivers of People With Dementia  
Catherine Verrier Piersol, E. Adel Herge, Albert E. Copolillo, Benjamin E. Leiby, and Laura N. Gitlin

Clinical Presentation of Anxiety in Parkinson's Disease: A Scoping Review  
Sara G. Lutz, Jeffrey D. Holmes, Emily A. Ready, Mary E. Jenkins, and Andrew M. Johnson

Ascribing Meaning to Occupation: An Example From Healthy, Working Mothers  
Michal Avrech Bar, Susan Forwell, and Catherine L. Backman

Amlung, Stephanie R., Wendy L. Miller, and Linda M. Bosley. "The 1999 national pressure ulcer prevalence survey: a benchmarking approach." *Advances in skin & wound care* 14, no. 6 (2001): 297-301.

[CMS Impact Act](#). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [Basic Facts](#).

[Click for references](#).

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Ghaisas, S., Pyatak, E. A., Blanche, E., Blanchard, J., Clark, F., & PUPS II Study Group (2015). [Lifestyle changes and pressure ulcer prevention in adults with spinal cord injury in the Pressure Ulcer Prevention Study Lifestyle Intervention](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 69, (1),

Karni, S., Bentur, N., & Ratzon, N. (2014). [Participation and quality of life of cognitively impaired older women in Israel following hip fractures](#). *Occupational Therapy International*, 21, (3), 91-97.

Kessler, DE., Egan, MY., Dubouloz, CJ., Graham, F. P., & McEwen, S. E. (2015). [Occupational Performance Coaching for stroke survivors: A pilot randomized controlled trial protocol](#). *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 82, (5), 279-288.

Kos, D., van Eupen, I., Meirte, J., Van Cauwenbergh, D., Moorkens, G., Meeus, M., & Nijs, J. (2015). [Activity pacing self-management in chronic fatigue syndrome: A randomized controlled trial](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 69, (5), 6905290020.

Leibold, ML., Holm, MD., Raina, Mori, KD., Reynolds, CF III, & Rogers, JC. (2014). [Activities and adaptation in late-life depression: A qualitative study](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 68, (5), 570-577.

Linder, SM., Rosenfeldt, AB., Bay, RC., Sahu, K., Wolf, SL., & Alberts, JL. (2015). [Improving quality of life and depression after stroke through telerehabilitation](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 69, (2), 6902290020p1-6902290020p10.

Murphy SL, Kratz AL, Schepens Niemiec SL. (2016) [Assessing Fatigability in the Lab and in Daily Life in Older Adults With Osteoarthritis Using Perceived, Performance, and Ecological Measures](#). *J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci*. pii: glw173. [Epub ahead of print]

Rogers, CM., Mallinson, T., & Peppers, D. (2014). [High-intensity sports for posttraumatic stress disorder and depression: Feasibility study of ocean therapy with veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 68, 395-404.

Speicher, SM., Walter, KH., & Chard, KM. (2014). [Interdisciplinary residential treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury: Effects on symptom severity and occupational performance and satisfaction](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 68, 412-421.

Van Puymbroeck, M., Altenburger, P., Combs-Miller, SA., Miller, KK., Kean, J., & Schmid, A. (2014). [The influence of mood-related variables on activity and participation in individuals with chronic stroke](#). *Topics in Geriatric Rehabilitation*, 30, (3), 216-222.

Waldman-Levi, A., & Keren, N. (2014). Occupational perspective on a functional cognitive intervention to improve family relationships. *The Israeli Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 23, (3), E38-E53.

Waldman-Levi, A., Bundy, A., & Katz, N. (2015). [Playfulness and interaction: An exploratory study of past and current exposure to domestic violence](#). *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*, 35, (2), 89-94.

Wang, YC., Kapellusch, J., & Garg, A. (2014). [Important factors influencing the return to work after stroke](#). *Work: A Journal of Prevention, Assessment and Rehabilitation*, 47, (4), 553-559.

Wood, A., Brooks, R., & Beynon-Pindar, C. (2015). [The experience of sleep for women with borderline personality disorder: An occupational perspective](#). *The British Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 78, (12), 750-756.

## Doctoral, Post-Doctoral and Research Training Opportunities

The Ford Foundation Fellowships for Life Sciences Research.

This year the program will award approximately 36 [dissertation fellowships](#), 24 [postdoctoral fellowships](#), and 60 [predoctoral fellowships](#). Fellowships are tenable at any fully accredited, non-proprietary (not for profit) U.S. institution of higher education. An applicant need not be accepted by the chosen institution at the time of application. Application deadline: Monday, November 10, 2016.

### Postdoctoral Fellow Position Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

One position is available for a [highly motivated PhD interested in translational occupational therapy research](#) in aging. The primary task of the postdoctoral research fellow will be to conduct research in the area of function and the environment for cognitively normal older adults aging in place. The focus of the research will be on identifying functional changes over time for older adults with and without predinical Alzheimer disease and preventing falls among community dwelling older adults. The role involves working in a team-based environment and collaborating with different researchers on a range of projects. The research includes analysis and preparation of manuscripts for publication based on data from clinical studies, as well as the preparation and submission of grant proposals.

### Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Rehabilitation Outcomes Measurement Research at Boston University

[This Fellowship Program](#) is designed to provide unique opportunities for advanced training and experience in rehabilitation outcome measurement. The dynamic program focuses on recent innovations in outcome measurement such as computer adaptive testing for patient reported outcomes, advances in performance-based outcome measures, and technological developments that have allowed the creation of sophisticated instrumented outcome measures.

### PhD Program in Health and Rehabilitation Sciences at The Ohio State University

The Child & Adolescent Health, Rehabilitation, & Evaluation (CAHRE) Lab at The Ohio State University is seeking exceptional, experienced pediatric occupational therapists that are interested in completing a PhD in Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. They are currently conducting two NIH-funded RCTs of Pediatric Constraint-Induced Movement Therapy (PCIMT; R01-HD0683 & R01-HD074574) and are looking for pediatric practitioners. Students are fully funded and receive: 1) tuition, 2) stipend, and 3) health insurance. Interested therapists should submit a CV and letter of interest to Drs. [Andrew Persch](#) or [Amy Darragh](#).

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## Grants and Funding Opportunities

### Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellows

RWJF is looking for exceptional midcareer health professionals and behavioral and social scientists with an interest in health policy to apply for the [2017-2018 Health Policy Fellows program](#). Since 1973, this non-partisan fellowship offers exclusive, hands-on policy experience with the most influential congressional and executive offices in the nation's capital. The fellowship requires a minimum commitment of 12 months in Washington, D.C. Up to six awards of up to \$165,000 each will be made in 2017.

Application deadline: November 15, 2016

<http://www.rwjf.org/en/library/funding-opportunities/2016/robert-wood-johnson-foundation-health-policy-fellows.html?rid=VdmMrpRVDg7hU>

### Bright Focus Foundation

[Bright Focus Foundation funds treatment of Alzheimer's Disease](#). Application deadline October 13, 2016.

### US Department of Health and Human Services Grants

Search the [grants.gov website](#) for up to date information on grants that are available. Learn about [how to apply](#) for NIH grants.

## Conferences and Calls for Papers

American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Conference (October 29-November 2, 2016, Denver, Colorado)

[The theme of this year's conference](#) is *Creating the Healthiest Nation: Ensuring the Right to Health*.

ACRM Annual Conference (October 30 -November 4, 2016, Chicago, Illinois)

The theme of the [American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine's 93rd Annual Conference](#) is Progress in Rehabilitation Research: Translation to Clinical Practice.

American College of Rheumatology Annual Conference (November 11-16, 2016, Washington, DC)

[For more information.](#)

Society for Neuroscience Annual Conference (November 12-16, 2016, San Diego, California)

[For more information.](#)

5th Health and Wellbeing in Children, Youth, and Adults with Developmental Disabilities Conference (November 16-18 2016, Vancouver, BC, Canada)

The goal of [the conference](#) is to help clinicians and caregivers learn effective ways to work with individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and to improve their quality of life experience.

Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting (November 16-20, 2016, New Orleans, Louisiana)

[This year's theme:](#) New Lens on Aging: Changing Attitudes, Expanding Possibilities

2nd World Disability and Rehabilitation Conference on 2017 (February 9-10, 2017, Colombo, Sri Lanka)

The conference theme is [A Spectrum of Opportunities: Overcoming Disability and Its Challenges](#). It will address the causes for the increase in number of the disabled persons, the perception of the society towards them, their deprived rights and the solutions to overcome this global phenomenon. [Researchers are invited to send abstracts for all modes of oral, poster and virtual presentations.](#)

Abstract submission deadline: December 15, 2016.

Early bird Registration Deadline: January 10, 2017.

AOTA's 97th Annual Conference & Centennial Celebration (March 30-April 2, 2017, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

[For more information.](#)

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[www.aotf.org](http://www.aotf.org)

[aotf@aotf.org](mailto:aotf@aotf.org)

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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