Greetings and Salutations to the OT community, scholars, practitioners, and stakeholders

September: Mental Health and Additional Considerations for OT Research

In previous iterations of Research Resources, I shared some specific topics for our community to consider. Health Disparities and Inclusion, Intestinal Bowel Diseases, Life Transitions, and Cancer are areas in which OT research can greatly impact. Let us continue this conversation. September is National Suicide Prevention Month and Self-Care Awareness Month.

While we have researchers dedicating their efforts to this topic (References for Mental Health in OT), we are in need of more evidence relating to Mental Health. Production of such timely research can support advocacy efforts, access, and utilization of OT services within the mental health practice settings. This topic arises following a discussion with AOTA's Public Affairs Group. As we work to bridge the gap between research and practice, it is important we identify such urgent areas needing our consideration. I encourage those in research, or considering entering into OT research, to explore the topics that could inform and make changes for our community and stakeholders. Those leading the charge need evidence to support their message.

The Foundation: Past, Present, and Future Considerations

I recently produced a retrospective report. The Foundation has remarkable outcomes over the years. Since the start of the grant programs in 1978, AOTF has invested over $3 million to OT research and the advancement of evidence for the field. As a result, the return on such funding is currently over $50 million in follow-on grant support for AOTF researchers. This number is expected to rise secondary to our three grant programs: Intervention Research, Health Services Research, and Implementation Science Research Grants.

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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.

OTJR’s impact factor is now 1.00, a 26% increase in just one year.

July 2019 OTJR

Initial Studies of Validity of the Children's Occupational Performance Questionnaire
Shelley E. Mulligan

Proloquo2Go Enhances Classroom Performance in Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder
Debra Collette, Alex Brix, Patricia Brennan, Nicole DeRoma, and Brittney C. Muir

Children’s Participation in Household Tasks: Caregiver Importance and Satisfaction
Adriana de Franca Drummond, Wendy J. Coster, Ana Maria Rabelo Gomes, and Marisa Cotta Mancini

Information Needs Regarding Cognitive Late Effects of Caregivers of Central Nervous System Tumor Survivors
Kara Schuele, Andrea E. Bennett, Taniya Varughese, Regina Abel, Claire Reichenbacher, Karli Green, and Alison A.
Other opportunities include the Nedra Gillette Endowed Research Fellowship, Kielhofner Doctoral Research Scholarship, and the various AOTF awards and honors for research. Through such programs, the Foundation's funding has reached 314 OT researchers. For the Intervention Research Grant program, 93% of the awardees receive federal follow-on funding and 100% continue as funded researchers on larger projects.

Taking a prospective scan of the landscape, the AOTF funded projects reveal opportunities. A specific opportunity is in the area of data sharing and standardization of terminology used amongst researchers. Recently, the National Institutes of Health established efforts to improve quality of data and ability to share data. This initiative focuses on the standardization and defining of Common Data Elements (CDE) for specific populations, reporting methods, and establishment of measures. Considering CDEs in OT research could result in outcomes that are more robust and sharing of data amongst investigators. As the AOTF projects cover similar research priorities, there is opportunity for data sharing! Those considering funding may want to explore this concept. To become more familiar with CDEs, I am providing a few links including a webinar on the topic.

Lastly, as we support young investigators desiring a career in OT research, I want to acknowledge a few individuals. This summer, three entry level doctoral students volunteered their time as interns. Sierra Clair, Delaney Booth, and William Librizzi (of the University of the Sciences) worked virtually, and on-site, with myself and Grace Oni our Grants Administrator. One of their major activities involved exploring areas of opportunity for the Foundation to continue supporting future researchers. It is my desire to analyze their ideas to inform our ongoing efforts in working with those interested in a research career. They produced a culminating project that we hope to share with you soon!

I do want to add one quick note on our current activities. Along
AOTA, the Foundation hosts the Summer Institute for Future Scientists in OT. View the AOTA website for updates on the upcoming application process for current entry-level OT students (to be announced soon). Also, go to our website to view the current opportunities for OT Researchers and Students. Click on the link www.aotf.org to view the call for LOIs for our three grant programs, Awards and Honor Nominations, and Scholarship opportunities!

V. Gibbs
Varleisha Gibbs, PhD, OTD, OTR/L
Scientific Programs Officer

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**Doctoral, Postdoctoral, and Research Training Opportunities**

**AOTF Grant Cycle is Open!**

The AOTF online submission site for letters of intent opened on 9/15/19. We are accepting LOIs for our Intervention, Health Services, and Implementation Research Grants.

**LOI with the Alzheimer's Association LOI Due September 30, 2019- 5:00 p.m. EST**

The Alzheimer's Association is excited to announce its 2020 January International Research Grant Program is now open. The Letter of Intent must be submitted online at http://proposalcentral.com. LOIs must be received by September 30, 2019, 5:00 PM EST.

Please Note: Eligibility updates for some programs, review details for each program in the full program announcement attached.

For more information
Email: grantsapp@alz.org

**Fellowships at Northwestern University**

Open fellowship positions in the Integrated Fellowship Program in Health Services Research at Northwestern University. Click for more information

**Graduate Research Assistantship - University of Florida**

The Department of Occupational Therapy, College of Public Health and Health Professions at the University of Florida, invites applications for a graduate research assistantship as part of the Rehabilitation Science PhD Program. This assistantship, under the mentorship of Dr. Sherrilene Classen, will begin in January 2020. The graduate research assistant will engage in multidisciplinary research with a focus on driving, rehabilitation science, and community mobility, in medically at risk populations. This position will provide intensive training in all aspects of research and rehabilitation science.

**Live Stream Webinar: Autism - Strategies for Self-Regulation, Learning, and Challenging Behaviours (November 5-6, 2019, 9:00 am - 4:00 p.m. Central Time)**

This live stream workshop from the Crisis & Trauma Resource Institute in Canada, provides practical strategies for working with high-need individuals around self-regulation, learning practices, and challenging behaviors.

**Online Training Modules Designed to Provide Quality Healthcare for Persons with Disabilities**

The Ohio Disability and Health Program offers online training modules that are designed to increase the capacity of health care providers to provide quality healthcare for persons with disabilities. Part I: Persons with Physical and Sensory Disabilities (WB2695) and Part II: Persons with Developmental Disabilities (WD2564) trainings present various disability issues, serving to strengthen participants' competence in physical/sensory
Cultural Competency in Rehabilitation (Live Webinar) (October 24, 2019, 3 p.m. ET)
What is cultural competency and why is it important in healthcare? Why is it relevant in the rehabilitation workplace? How can individuals and organizations address the challenges that cultural sensitivity poses? Christina Papadimitriou, PhD, of Oakland University and George Washington University, describes cultural competency, sensitivity, and humility as necessary principles and practices in responding to cultural diversity in rehabilitation in this webinar presented by the Brain Injury Association of America. Registration closes October 22, 2019. Includes 1 ACBIS CEU.

Supported Decision Making And Independence After Brain Injury (Live Webinar) (November 6, 2019, 3 p.m. ET)
Figuring out the appropriate level of support that a person with a brain injury needs can be challenging. Families and providers may struggle to understand the range of options available to help a person make decisions about his or her life. Too often it is assumed that a person either lives independently or requires a guardianship or conservatorship. The Brain Injury Association of America webinar featuring Ned Solomon, Director, Partners in Policy, Tennessee Council of Developmental Disabilities, will discuss the concept of Supported Decision Making, how it can be implemented, and what resources and information are available. Registration closes November 4, 2019, EST. Includes 1 ACBIS CEU.

Rehabilitation Research Career Development Program (RRCD) -- NIH K12 Positions
The goal of the program (presented by UTMB with UF and USC) is to provide OTs and PTs (with postdoctoral or related research experience) with the skills and research experience necessary to become independent investigators and future academic and scientific leaders in their professions. Scholars will receive mentored training in:

- Aging & geriatric rehabilitation (UF, USC, UTMB)
- Neuroscience & neurorehabilitation (UF, USC, UTMB)
- Muscle biology, exercise, physical activity, musculoskeletal rehabilitation (UF, USC, UTMB)
- Biomedical imaging & engineering, virtual reality, assistive technology (UF, USC)
- Developmental disorders, pediatric rehabilitation (UF, USC)
- Health services, prevention, wellness, health disparities, community integration, quality of life research (UF, USC, UTMB)
- Chronic pain, cognitive rehabilitation, behavioral and psychosocial support (UF, USC, UTMB)

Send any questions or requests to: rehab.info@utmb.edu

References for Occupational Therapy Mental Health


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**Grants and Funding Opportunities**

The [National Center for Advancing Translations Sciences (NCATS)](https://ncats.nih.gov/) is soliciting applications for upcoming funding opportunities. NCATS has two funding opportunities open for small business biotech entrepreneurs and researchers under the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs.

**2020 Contract Topics Solicitation: due Oct. 23, 2019**

NCATS is soliciting applications for the 2020 SBIR contract solicitation (PHS 2020-1), due Oct. 23, 2019. The topic is "Alternatives to commercially available cell culture insert membranes and manufacturing techniques (Contract Topic #019)." For questions on NCATS SBIR contract topics, please contact NCATS Contracting Officer Jeffrey Schmidt.

Questions? NCATS encourages applicants to email NCATS-SBIRSTTR@mail.nih.gov to discuss potential project ideas and related questions.

**NIH Funding**

NIH Funding Link: [https://grants.nih.gov/funding/index.htm](https://grants.nih.gov/funding/index.htm)

- **Project Summary/Abstract and Project Narrative:** What's the Difference and What to Include
- **National Library of Medicine.** In 2019, the National Library of Medicine (NLM) has about $64 million in funding for data science and biomedical informatics projects.
- **National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH).** NCCIH conducts and supports research, and provides information about complementary health products and practices. Among the many topics they fund are studies involving yoga, tai chi, cognitive behavior therapy, mind-body interactions and many more.
- **RFA-AG-20-031: Research Education: Short Courses on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias for the Behavioral and Social Sciences**
- **Notice of NICHD's participation on PAR-19-326, Reducing Stigma to Improve HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment, and Care in Low and Middle-Income Countries (R21 Clinical Trial Optional) (NOT-HD-19-027)**
Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

- Research on biopsychosocial factors of social connectedness and isolation on health, wellbeing, illness, and recovery (R01 Clinical Trials Not Allowed) (PAR-19-373)
- Dementia Care: Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) (RFA-AG-20-037)
- Dementia Care: Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) (RFA-AG-20-038)
- Research Networks for the Study of Recovery Support Services for Persons Treated with Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (R24 Clinical Trial Optional) (RFA-DA-20-014)
- NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research Education Program on Translational Devices (R25 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) (RFA-NS-20-003)

For additional funding sources, see the AOTF website.

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**News and Resources**

**NIMHD Loan Repayment Program Technical Assistance Webinar**
(NOT-MD-20-005)
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

**The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office (SGMRO) Announces Bisexual Health Workshop**
(NOT-OD-19-146)
Office of the Director, NIH

**Network of Patient Safety Databases (NPSD)**
The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services was directed in the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act (PSQIA) (PDF, 191 KB) of 2005 to create and maintain a NPSD to provide an interactive, evidence-based management resource for health care providers, Patient Safety Organizations (PSOs) listed by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), and others. AHRQ, the lead agency for patient safety, is authorized to implement the NPSD. An immediate goal for AHRQ is to encourage voluntary reporting of information that could be used for national learning to improve patient safety and prevent harm. Additionally, over the long term, AHRQ will assess the feasibility of a single point of access for qualified researchers.

Initially, the NPSD contains nonidentifiable data derived from patient safety work product (PSWP) submitted by PSOs from across the country. This rich data source makes it possible to identify and track patient safety concerns for the purpose of learning how to mitigate patient safety risks and reduce harm across health care settings nationally.

The NPSD will use visualization products to develop informational tools, including dashboards and chartbooks, to make the data available for meaningful, national learning purposes. One way that information resulting from analyses of trends and patterns of health care errors based on NPSD data will be made available to the public is through annual quality reports prepared by AHRQ, known as the National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report. Data from the NPSD will be used to prepare a report on effective strategies for reducing medical errors and increasing patient safety.

**Supported Decision Making And Independence After Brain Injury (Live Webinar)(November 6, 2019)**
How can supported decision making be used to help people with brain injury live as independently as possible? This webinar will discuss the concept of Supported Decision Making, how it can be implemented, and what resources and information are available. Registration closes November 4, 2019.

**Boston Rehabilitative Impairment Study of the Elderly (Boston RISE), 2009-2014 (ICPSR 37045)**
The Center for Large Data in Rehabilitation Research (CLDR) announces the availability of the Boston Rehabilitative Impairment Study of the Elderly (Boston RISE) dataset for secondary analysis. Boston Rise is a prospective cohort study of older primary care patients. Boston RISE was a prospective cohort study of older primary care patients, aged 65 years and older, who were at risk for declining mobility and disability at baseline. The study was designed to investigate which combinations of neuromuscular impairments are most responsible for mobility decline and disability over 2 years of follow up.

ACRM Webinar Library
The ACRM Training Institute Committee has launched of the first step toward creation of a new member benefit, the ACRM Webinar Library. ACRM currently supports any community group that wishes to host educational webinars on topics of interest to their members. These webinars are available in one location -- the Resources tab on ACRM.org -- with 24/7 public access.

MentorSpace - a new free resource from SAGE Publishing
Sage recently launched MentorSpace, a free-to-access online community space that allows users to tap into the wisdom of those who have executed a specific aspect of the research process and want to share their knowledge with others. The site is a place for users to connect, share insights, learn from their colleagues, and broaden their professional networks.

A resource for undergraduate, graduate, and post-doc students, as well as researchers, instructors, and authors in the social and behavioral research field, MentorSpace content types include:

- "Methods in Action"- posts that describe a specific technique or report on particular research efforts that explore the methodology or innovation used
- "What I learned about doing research"- posts that describe the circumstances surrounding a research effort including key obstacles and takeaways. "What I learned about teaching research"- tips for teaching courses in the methods field
- Interviews - posts that examine problem solving in research, focusing on how to critically approach a problem and what steps to use

New CDC funding will expand knowledge about children with autism spectrum disorder
CDC has launched a new phase of funding for the Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network, the only collaborative network to monitor the number and characteristics of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and other developmental disabilities in multiple communities throughout the United States. Over the next four years, CDC will invest more than $16 million to enhance tracking at nine sites previously included in the ADDM Network, and to launch one new site. All 10 sites will track ASD among 4-year-old and 8-year-old children. One site will complete a follow-up of 16-year-old adolescents who were included in the ADDM Network in surveillance years 2010 and 2012, when they were 8 years old.

NIH News and Links

- [Update on NIH's efforts to address sexual harassment in science](#)
- [Biosketch help](#)
- [Revised NIH Grant Policy Statement for 2019](#)
- [New Video Provides Overview of New NIH Policies on Human Subjects Research and Clinical Trials](#)
- [NIH Grant website](#)
- [Advice from NIH on resubmitting grant applications](#)
- [Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (Parent K01)](#)
- [NIH Pathway to Independence Award (Parent K99/R00)](#)
- [Independent Scientist Award (Parent K02)](#)
- [Midcareer Investigator Award in Patient-Oriented Research (Parent K24)](#)

Publications

**Qualitative Secondary Research: A Step-By-Step Guide**
This book will guide you through finding, managing and analyzing qualitative secondary data in an error-free way.
It provides an accessible introduction to the theory of secondary research and sets out the advantages and limitations of using this kind of research.
Cooking Matters for adults -- a nutrition education intervention for adults with developmental disabilities (DD) and their direct support professionals (DSPs)

Cooking Matters (published by the Ohio State Nisonger Center Health Promotion and Healthcare Parity program) is a cooking-based nutrition education intervention, developed by Share Our Strength, for people with low health literacy. It was identified that both adults with DD and DSPs showed positive trends in healthy food preparation, eating a balanced diet, and reduction in cooking barriers at post-test and 6-months after the intervention. Qualitative data revealed that both participant groups reported that they learned about healthy food and beverage choices and various cooking skills. Both participant groups reported confidence in skills learned and were satisfied with the intervention and approach of including adults with DD and DSPs in the intervention together.

Artificial Intelligence Applications for Older Adults and People with Disabilities: Balancing Safety and Autonomy: Proceedings of a Workshop-in Brief

On October 24, 2018, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine held a workshop which examined the state of the art and knowledge about artificial intelligence (AI) and explored its potential to foster a balance of safety and autonomy for older adults and people with disabilities who strive to live as independently as possible.

Strengthening the Connection between Health Professions Education and Practice

This workshop, held by the Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education, explored methods and methodology for bridging health professions education and practice in ways that improve information flow between learning and application. The workshop also explored various models of training by bringing together multiple health professions across the education-to-practice continuum.

Functional Assessment for Adults with Disabilities

The U.S. Social Security Administration (SSA) provides monetary benefits to eligible people with disabilities through its Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs. As of December 2017, SSDI had approximately 10.4 million beneficiaries, and SSI served about 7.1 million recipients who were classified as blind or disabled. With support from SSA, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine convened an expert committee to look at ways to collect information about a person's physical and mental functional abilities relevant to work requirements. The resulting report lays out the committee's findings and conclusions.

Evaluation of the Disability Determination Process for Traumatic Brain Injury in Veterans

At the mandate of the U.S. Congress, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) contracted with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to convene a committee to review the process by which the VA assesses impairments relating to TBI for purposes of awarding disability compensation. The resulting report outlines the committee's findings and provides recommendations to the VA related to the health care specialists who diagnose TBI; the adequacy of the tools used by VA to provide clinical examinations and disability ratings for TBI; and the adjudication process (the overall process used to evaluate for disability compensation, from submission of claims through appeals).

Conferences and Calls for Papers

The theme for 2019 is Children, Young People & Families -- Learning Through Doing

AOTA Specialty Conference: Mental Health & Opioids (September 20-21, 2019, Chicago, Illinois)
Information will be available.

Conference of the Society for the Study of Occupation: USA (October 3-5, 2019, Scottsdale, Arizona)
The theme this year: The darker side of occupations, illegal, taboo, risky. Ruth Zemke lecture in occupational
Canadian Stroke Congress (October 3-5, 2019, Ottawa, Canada)
Experts share the latest research findings, clinical innovations, exchange ideas, and make the connections which will change the future of stroke.

AOTA Education Summit (October 18-19, 2019, Las Vegas, Nevada)
Information will be available.

11th Annual Health Literacy Research Conference (October 27-30, 2019, San Diego, California)
Researchers, educators and clinicians interested in improving communication in healthcare.

2019 Online Knowledge Translation (KT) Conference (October 28, 30, November 1, 2019 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm ET)
This year's conference theme is Innovative KT Strategies That Work. The conference will bring together research-based KT tools and strategies to increase the use of research findings. Presentations will address a range of effective and innovative approaches to translating, disseminating, and using knowledge and will describe methods designed to measure KT outcomes.
Registration is free and will open Summer, 2019.

AOTA/NBCOT National Student Conclave (November 1-2, 2019, Chicago, Illinois)
Information will be available.

2019 American Public Health Association Meeting and Expo (November 2-6, 2019, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)
Creating the Healthiest Nation: For science. For action. For health.

ACRM 96th Annual Conference (November 5-8, 2019, Chicago, Illinois)
Core conference: November 5-8, 2019: Plenaries, hundreds of educational sessions, papers, posters, ACRM Community Meetings, receptions, networking, ACRM Rehab EXPO.
Pre-conference: November 3-5, 2019: Dozens of Instructional Courses, Cognitive Rehabilitation Training, ACBIS Training, Early Career Development Course.

22nd International 3S Symposium: Sense + SenseABILITY (November 15-16, 2019, Bethesda, Maryland)
This year's STAR Institute 3S Symposium is all about shaping human development: sensory processing and sensory motor experience and their impact on development of sense of self and self-agency. A conference for all those working in sensory processing and integration across the lifespan; child development and education; and with neurodiverse populations. Symposium will be livestreamed.

Experiential Design - Rethinking Relations Between People, Objects and Environments Conference (January 16-17, 2020, Tallahassee, Florida)
Design - Wellbeing - Education - Accessibility This interdisciplinary event will link artists, designers, architects, and urbanists with health professionals, psychologists, and accessibility specialists to explore essential overlaps between these areas.

Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability & Diversity (March 2-3, 2020, Honolulu, Hawaii)
Backed by 35 years of experience, Pac Rim is widely recognized as an international and diverse gathering. Participants represent disability, share the human experiences associated with disability; increase understanding through interdisciplinary research and and best practice, and provide action plans to address social needs. Their goal is to harness the innovation and knowledge building that are occurring globally, to shape an informed collective that empowers individuals with disabilities, their families, and invigorates those who serve.
Call for proposals deadline: December 1, 2019.

AOTA Annual Conference & Expo (March 26-29, 2020, Boston, Massachusetts)
The largest gathering of OT professionals in the world features educational and poster sessions, exceptional speakers, and an Expo Hall filled with the latest products and opportunities. Pre-Conference Institutes take place on March 25.
AOTF is a 501(c)(3) dedicated to advancing the science of occupational therapy to support people's full participation in meaningful life activities.

Read more about AOTF and its activities to *Build Evidence to Improve Practice and Health* at [www.aotf.org](http://www.aotf.org).

To make a gift to the Foundation, please contact development@aotf.org. Thank you.

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