

Request for Research Proposals Acute Care Physical Therapy Section American Physical Therapy Association

Purpose:

The purpose of the Acute Care Section Research Grant is to provide research funding to a Section member, in order to advance research in acute care physical therapy. The proposed study must be related to the practice issues relevant to acute care physical therapy practice.

Eligibility:

To be eligible to receive the Acute Care Section research grant, the investigator must be a member in good standing of the Acute Care Section at the time of application and receipt of the grant. Members may be clinicians, graduate students, or faculty. Graduate student members may use the grant toward the costs associated with thesis or dissertation projects.

Funding:

The Acute Care Section's Research Committee will award a \$500 research grant by March 2012. Grant funds may support research expenses such as data collection, statistical analysis, consulting fees, subject compensation, equipment costs, and publication of results. Grant funds may not be used for indirect costs or for travel to meetings. Research funds will be distributed after the Committee receives proof of IRB approval from the awardee.

Application Process:

The research proposal should be formatted with 1 inch margins, font size no smaller than 11 point Arial. The proposal should follow the format outlined below.

- **Title Page:** Include the title of the proposal, and name and address of the investigators.
- **Table of Contents:** Provide page numbers for each subsequent section of the proposal.
- **Section 1: Abstract:** Structured format to include Purpose, Design, Methods, Data Analysis, and Significance. 300 words maximum.
- **Section 2: Specific Aims and Hypotheses:** One page maximum
- **Section 3: Research Plan:** Include Preliminary Data (if applicable), Experimental Design, and Methods (2-page maximum). Whenever possible, please account for the design, subjects, methods, variables, statistics, power analysis, limitations, and potential problems and risks.
- **Section 4: Literature Cited**
- **Section 5: Appendices:**
 - *Appendix A: Proposed Budget and Budget Justification*
 - *Appendix B: Abbreviated Biography of the Principal Investigator (NIH Format, 3-page maximum) Include: Name and Position; Education and Training (Institution, Location, Degree, Year, Field of Study); Positions Held and Honors; Publications, if any; Funding History, if any). An example can be found at: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/biosketchsample.doc>*
 - *Appendix C: IRB Informed Consent and Approval Letter, if approved prior to submission of research proposal. If not approved, provide a timeline and plan for IRB approval and description of risks and protections for human subjects, one page, maximum. The award cannot be disbursed without IRB approval or an institutional exemption letter stating why IRB approval is not required for the project.*

- *Appendix D: Statement of Support (Optional)*: Provide a letter or statement from a supervisor, describing the environment and discussing the time and/or equipment available to the investigator for research.

Review Process:

The submission deadline is 5PM, EST November 15 and all materials should be emailed to the Chair of the Acute Care Section Research Committee (information below).

Complete applications will be reviewed by members of the Acute Care Section Research Committee for scientific merit. Evaluators will use NIH Reviewers' Guidelines to rate each proposal on the following criteria: Refer to <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/critiques/rpg.htm>

1. ***Significance***: Relevance, importance and potential contribution of the research objective to acute care physical therapy;
2. ***Approach***: Scientific merit, logic and clarity of the research design and methodology; feasibility to complete the project within the projected time and budget;
3. ***Innovation***: Novelty of the approach or therapy; whether the project generates pilot data which will be used in a larger grant proposal;
4. ***Investigators***: Training and experience of investigators in relation to the proposed research; availability of research mentorship as needed;
5. ***Environment***: Institutional/Clinical support.

Evaluators will rate each of the five criteria on a 1-9 point scale to score proposals http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/guidelines_general/scoring_system_and_procedure.pdf. Each reviewer's score will be averaged into an overall score. The application with the best overall score will be recommended for funding.

The recipient will be notified by the Chair of the Research Committee no later than January 15 and announced at the Acute Care Section Membership Meeting at Combined Sections. Funds will be released to the recipient on March 1, if proof of IRB approval has been provided.

Responsibilities of Grant Awardees:

Grant recipients are required to complete the following items:

1. A one-page progress summary must be submitted by March 1, 2013, twelve months after the grant award date of the grant.
2. Upon completion of the study, a manuscript/report must be submitted for publication to The Journal for Acute Care Physical Therapy or an equivalent physical therapy research journal. Receipt of a research grant does not guarantee acceptance into the Journal for Acute Care Physical Therapy.
3. The financial support of the Acute Care Section APTA must be acknowledged in published research articles or scientific poster/platform presentations at professional meetings such as Combined Sections.

Contact Information:

Please address any questions and submit applications to
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