

Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy

Call for Proposals: Development of Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses

Deadline: October 1, 2017

Introduction

The Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy (APPT) is supporting the development of systematic reviews (SRs) and meta-analyses (MAs) as a service to its members. A fund of \$5000 has been made available to support the development of SRs and MAs that can facilitate the translation of research into practice by summarizing the current state of knowledge. SRs synthesize the evidence and identify gaps in the research with regard to clinical questions. MAs use statistical methods to evaluate outcomes across studies. They are the foundation of clinical practice guidelines, but may be more appropriate as evidence products when the literature is sparse or there is uncertainty about the results.

Call for Proposals

The APPT is calling for teams of 2-4 people to develop additional evidence-based SRs/MAs using explicit systematic methods. Topics should be based on current clinical practice issues that meet at least one of the following characteristics:

- There are variations among measures or interventions for the same problem.
- There is a large body of published research that has not been recently (or ever) synthesized. (Note that applicants are required to submit a search history and brief summary of the types of articles available to support the SRs/MAs.)
- There are changes in prevalence of a condition that pediatric PTs are treating for which there is a body of related research.

Support for Systematic Reviews-Meta-Analyses

The development of SR/MAs requires commitment to a systematic process that may span 12-24 months, depending on the clinical question and the amount of relevant literature. This assumes that some of the team members may be clinicians who are volunteering their time around work hours, and thus the process has natural ebbs and flows of work productivity. In order to facilitate the process and assist teams with successfully moving through the completion of a SR/MA, the APPT offers the following support.

- Alyssa LaForme Fiss, as the Practice Committee Chair, or another designated member of the Practice Committee, will provide oversight and methodological consultation directly to the writing group so that future SRs or MAs are similarly organized. If needed or desired, the Practice Committee will also provide editorial assistance.

- Members of the Practice Committee will serve as external reviewers and provide content and editorial support of document drafts.
- An allocation of up to \$2500 per team will be budgeted over a maximum of 2 years to facilitate the development and publication of the SRs or MAs.
- Consultation opportunities are available by phone, Skype, at CSM or by appointment for groups that are considering a proposal submission to develop a SR or MA.

Application Process

Teams should complete the application attached and submit to pediatrics@apta.org by October 1, 2017.

Team Composition

Teams should minimally consist of at least 1 academic faculty member with access to a medical librarian and library holdings, a methodologist with SR/MA process experience, and at least 1 person with publication success.

Budget

The proposal should identify the amount of money requested and itemize how the funds will be used. Payment for team member release time is not allowed. An example of allowable budget expenses is provided below, but the list should not be complete nor are all items required.

SAMPLE EXPENSES	BUDGET ALLOCATION	SAMPLE RATIONALE
Graduate student funding to assist with literature search/ organization		'x' hours of support needed for...
Expenses related to retrieving full text articles		PDF costs for items not available through collective libraries.
Travel expenses to coordinate writing		Justify why an in-person meeting would be needed.
Bibliographic/statistics software license (e.g. Endnote, SPSS)		
Skype or online meeting subscriptions		
TOTAL EXPENSES		

Publication

SRs/MAs supported by the APPT should be submitted for publication to the Pediatric Physical Therapy journal, following the PRISMA conventions. <http://www.prisma-statement.org/>

ACADEMY OF PEDIATRIC PHYSICAL THERAPY APPLICATION TO DEVELOP A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OR META-ANALYSIS

Systematic Review/Meta-Analysis Team (add rows as needed)

Name	Role or Expertise	Address

Will this be a collaboration with another APTA Section? Y N

If yes, which Section? _____

Will this be a collaboration with another professional organization? Y N

If yes, who? _____

PECOT question(s) that will be addressed by the proposed SR or MA:

Person/patient:

Exposure (intervention or measurement):

Comparison exposure:

Outcome:

Time:

Rationale for development of the SR or MA. (Include specific characteristics from the above list. Identify which aspects of clinical service quality will be addressed by answering the PECOT.)

What has already been published on the topic? Submit a search history and a summary of the topics and types of articles available to support a SR or MA.

Specific methodology proposed including search locations, literature quality review, and analysis. (Should be consistent with PECOT and PRISMA guidelines.)

What skills and resources do you have among the SR/MA members? Insert initials of member(s) that have this skill or resource.

Initials	Skills	Initials	Skills

Describe your timeline for the following stages of an SR or MA

Phase	Estimated month/year
1. Question clarification	
2. Perform the literature search	
3. Data extraction	
4. Critical appraisal of the studies	
5. Data synthesis/analysis	
6. Writing results	
7. Submitting for publication	
8. Archiving and updating	

Budget

Item	Cost	Rationale