Thirty Years of NCMRR

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September 9, 2020
July 26, 2020 marked the 30th Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act
What about the need for biomedical research on disability and rehabilitation?

November 16, 1990, Congress passed an amendment to the Public Health Service Act (P.L. 101-613) to establish the National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research (NCMRR) within NICHD to conduct and support research and research training.

NCMRR began as an NIH Institute in Training

- Advisory Board that meets twice a year
- Tasked with coordinating rehabilitation research across NIH and the federal government

Duane Alexander, MD – NICHD Director 1986-2009
First Advisory Board – May 1991

Dr. David Gray
Dr. Lou Quatrano joins the Center
Research Plan for the National Center
for Medical Rehabilitation Research

BETHESDA, MD
MARCH 1993

Research Plan

ORGANIZING SPONSOR:
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development,
National Institutes of Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

The statements, conclusions, and recommendations contained in this document reflect both
individual and collective opinions of the symposium participants and are not intended to
represent the official position of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, or the
National Institutes of Health.
State of the Science in the 90s

- Neuroplasticity applied to rehabilitation
- Assistive technology

C-leg by Ottobock

President Bill Clinton and Dean Kamen in the White House, 2000
Yvonne Maddox, PhD (1998-2000) and Michael Weinrich, MD (2000-2012)
NCMRR grows in the 2000s

- Training Programs
- Infrastructure Programs
- Pediatric Critical Care and Rehabilitation
- NIH doubling
Effect of Constraint-Induced Movement Therapy on Upper Extremity Function 3 to 9 Months After Stroke
The EXCITE Randomized Clinical Trial

Steven L. Wolf, PhD, PT
Carolee J. Weinstein, PhD, PT
J. Philip Miller, AB
Edward Taub, PhD
Gitendra Uswatte, PhD
David Morris, PhD, PT
Carol Giuliani, PhD, PT
Kathy E. Light, PhD, PT
Deborah Nichols-Larsen, PhD, PT
for the EXCITE Investigators

Context: Single-shot constraint therapy (CST) for hand and wrist function at least 1 year.

Objective: To determine whether and customary treatment had a first stroke.

Design and methods (EXCITE trial) conducted at 7 US centres.
Participants: Interventions...
NCMRR turns 20!

Dr. Ralph Nitkin

National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research (NCMRR) 20th Anniversary Scientific Symposium:
Advancing Research to Improve The Lives of Individuals With Disabilities
December 12-13, 2011
Blue Ribbon Panel on Medical Rehabilitation

NCMRR is Functioning, but not Thriving

“Failure to Thrive”

Dr. John Chae

Dr. Rebecca Craik
NICHD took action

• NICHD Director Alan Guttmacher gave NCMRR more autonomy to fulfill mission as coordinator of rehabilitation research at NIH

• Dedicated portion of the extramural budget

• Hired Dr. Alison Cernich as the next NCMRR Director in 2015

• *Enhancing the Stature and Visibility of Medical Rehabilitation at NIH*
NIH Rehabilitation Conference – May 2016

• Opportunity to talk across areas of rehabilitation
• Energize the field and encourage collaborative opportunities
• Provide input to the final research plan
NIH Research Plan on Rehabilitation

1) Rehabilitation Across the Lifespan
2) Community and Family
3) Technology Use and Development
4) Research Design and Methodology
5) Translational Science
6) Building Research Capacity and Infrastructure

NIH-DoD Limb Loss and Preservation Registry

• Contract awarded to Mayo Clinic

• Focus is on gathering data on preservation efforts, surgery, rehabilitation, devices, and functional outcomes for individuals with limb loss and limb difference

• Government Oversight Committee includes representatives from NIH, DoD, VA, CMS, and FDA
Common Data Elements Efforts

- Common Data Elements make it easier to compare research studies and, in some cases, combine results
- Limb loss - Federal interagency group working to standardize data elements for limb loss research
- NINDS collaboration on Neurorehab CDEs
Research Infrastructure Network (NCMRR.org)
Pathways to Prevention: NIH Office of Disease Prevention (ODP) – Virtual Workshop December 1-3, 2020

• NCMRR and NINDS received ODP support for a Pathways to Prevention Initiative

• Goal is to inform the Physical Activity Guidelines and increase the focus on health and wellness in this population
  • AHRQ is the systematic review and workshop partner
  • Federal partners meeting included multiple NIH ICs and VA, DoD, NIDILRR, and CDC

Learn more at prevention.nih.gov/P2P-PAforWheelchairUsers.
Trans NIH effort – 15 Institutes and Centers contributed to the conference format through the Medical Rehabilitation Coordinating Committee at NIH

Funding provided by NICHD, NINDS, NICCH, NIA, NIDCD

Considerations for accessibility and time zone differences

Content will be available on demand after the meeting; No fee to attend

Please register and plan to join us! Invite your students, trainees, research participants!
Rehabilitation and COVID-19

Thank and acknowledge the front-line workers in the healthcare field and the formal and informal caretakers.
Rehabilitation needs of COVID-19 survivors

Viewpoint


LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Applaud the attention these authors are bringing to the rehabilitation needs of COVID-19 survivors and dissemination of best practices, but we need more research in this area.
Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on rehabilitation services

COVID-19: maintaining essential rehabilitation services across the care continuum

Janet Bow Rettger 1,2, Andrea Thouni 2, Victoria Marquieich 3

COMMENTARY

The COVID-19 rehabilitation pandemic

Sarah De Biase 1, Laura Cook 1, Dawn A. Skelton 2, Miles Witham 3, Ruth ten Hove 4
Long term effects of COVID-19 pandemic on PWD and the future of rehabilitation

• Telerehab
• Outcomes
• Psychosocial
• Behavioral
• Economic
My philosophy as Director

Resources

Communication

Partnerships
NCMRR today
Thank you!

Questions?