

Suggestions for Funding Priorities for the Foundation for Physical Therapy
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I. Best models of physical therapy service delivery:

- A. Focus on patients with chronic diseases and conditions such as diabetes, multiple sclerosis, arthritis, emphysema, COPD etc.**
- B. Focus on patients with musculoskeletal dysfunction**

Related questions:

What is the impact on outcomes and cost if services are provided by PTs, PTAs, aides or other personnel?

What is the impact of having vs. not having continuity of care.

How frequently should physical therapy services be provided?

What kind of supervision of support personnel is most cost-effective?

What types of physical therapy interventions/delivery models are most cost-effective i.e. group services vs. individual etc.

What is the cost-effectiveness of physical therapy?

Application of Evaluation Criteria:

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1) Impact on society; high costs, poor outcomes | |
| a. Both subgroups of patients are high cost and prevalent | 5/5 |
| 2) Direct impact on PT practice- diagnosis, prognosis and treatment | |
| a. High impact- directly relates to how treatment is delivered | 5/5. |
| 3) Healthcare cost implications- cost/benefit ratios in terms of cost savings | |
| a. Unknown, potentially high impact | 4/5 |
| 4) Impact on PT profession | |
| a. High impact | 5/5 |
| 5) Fundraising potential | 5/5 |
| a. High impact could provide important evidence that could impact Regulation of the profession | |
| 6) Likelihood of success | |
| a. Moderate-high impact- broad topic areas | 4/5 |
| 7) Lack of current funding | |
| a. High impact- minimal funding is available at present | 5/5 |

Total Score: 33/40

II. Strategies to increase the availability and scope of physical therapy related data within publically funded and publically available health surveys and data sources.

Related questions:

What type of data is needed to conduct clinical practice improvement research?

What type of data is needed to study cost-effectiveness of physical therapy services?

What is the process for adding data elements to National surveys such as National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

Application of Evaluation Criteria:

1. Impact on society	5/5
High, greater availability of data will enable research on Nationally representative samples, and expand interest in Rehabilitation research	
2. Direct impact on PT practice- diagnosis, prognosis and treatment	3/5
Moderate impact-but will take time	
3. Healthcare cost implications- cost/benefit ratios in terms of cost savings	4/5
Unknown, potentially high impact	
4. Impact on PT profession	5/5
High impact, will increase visibility of PT	
5. Fundraising potential	5/5
High impact could provide important evidence that could impact Regulation of the profession	
6. Likelihood of success	4/5
Moderate-high impact-	
7. Lack of current funding	5/5
High impact- no funding is available at present	
Total Score:	30/40