

Global Health for Aging Adults SIG News

Recent Election Results:

The Academy of Geriatrics recently announced the outcomes of the October elections for the SIG. The current leadership team would like to congratulate the newly elected officers and thank our outgoing leadership. The outgoing leadership's term will end at the 2021 CSM meeting.

Newly elected leaders for the GHAA:

- GHAA SIG Vice Chair - **Jennifer Cruz Garcia Youssef, PT, DPT**
- GHAA SIG Secretary - **Becca D. Jordre, PT, DPT**

Re-elected leaders for the GHAA:

- GHAA SIG Nominating Committee Member - **Soshi Samejima, PT, DPT**

Please read below to learn more about the SIG's new leadership members who will be assume their office during CSM 2021.

Jennifer Cruz Garcia Youssef, PT, DPT

Board-Certified Clinical Specialist in Geriatric Physical Therapy, Certified Exercise Expert for Aging Adults, Certified Lymphedema Therapist - Manual Decongestive Therapist, Certified Kinesio Taping Practitioner

I created a Balance and Falls Support group in Aging Adults using Facebook as a platform. It is a community of clients, caregivers and healthcare clinicians specializing in geriatrics and neurologic cases, that provides health and wellness content, highlights great clinicians and provides evidence-based fall prevention strategies. I hosted and moderated the Geriatric Rehab Summit that provides current knowledge and innovations in geriatric settings. I am also a Board of Trustee of FUTURE Foundation, a nonprofit organization that aims to uplift the global PT profession, mainly through education and fostering camaraderie and support for Filipino PTs practicing locally and internationally.

My vision for the APTA Geriatrics is to continue to hone great clinicians and developed Ambassadors who will educate aging and older adults regarding health and wellness using evidenced-based practice.

Becca D. Jordre, PT, DPT

Board-Certified Clinical Specialist in Geriatric Physical Therapy

I graduated from Duke University in 2002 and practiced in rural Minnesota before taking a faculty position at the University of South Dakota 12 years ago. Along with teaching, I engage in research related to aging athletes and include PTs and student PTs from all over the country in this effort. My recent experience with APTA Geriatrics was chairing a task force for our partnership with the National Senior Games Association. That effort increased the visibility of the physical therapy profession to aging athletes and made me realize the importance of serving my profession more widely. It is my hope that by serving on the Global Health for Aging Adults SIG I will find opportunities to assist in their goals as they relate to a more global view of our profession. I love the idea of engaging both students and clinicians in more international outreach and learning. If given the opportunity to serve on this SIG I will apply my clinical and academic experience to help foster those goals.

Soshi Samejima, PT, DPT

Board-Certified Clinical Specialist in Geriatric Physical Therapy

I am a foreign-trained PT (in Japan) and have worked in various settings as a PT in the United States, Japan, and Cambodia. My goal for this position is to develop a platform where PTs in the United States can contribute to the rehabilitation community in developing and developed countries. Further, I would like to create an opportunity for you to learn beneficial information about aging populations from other countries. For the last three years, I have contributed to this SIG as an NC with our excellent team with joy. We have created an infrastructure as a liaison of the international organization. I also plan to hold an educational session at CSM 2021 to introduce the Japanese strategy for health in an aging population. As a scholar, I have some projects which I would like to launch from this SIG, such as a formal translation of clinically meaningful outcomes like PROMIS into other languages. As mentioned, I would like to continue to work as a team member. Thank you so much for your consideration.

Global Health for Aging Adults Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) Session

Thursday, February 18, 8:30 pm - 10:00 pm

The Future Is Already Here: Super Aging Society in the Global Community

Description:

Rapid growth of older people is a global phenomenon. As one of the leading countries of this trend, the United States population over age 65 is estimated to double by 2060, with a 200% increase in people over age 85. The speaker will analyze these successful examples and discuss the importance of PTs' leadership for healthy aging in each community. The presenter will describe the current status for global aging and introduce a successful nationwide effort to promote healthy aging in Japan. Through this Japanese program, the national database for mobility decline was collected and implemented into both community-based and health care interventions. The speaker also will describe one of the first Successful Aging Grant Challenge to serve meaningful aging with cultural competency (i.e., Asian immigrants and Native American communities). Based on these models, experts will discuss how clinicians can initiate a new business model and sustainable community outreach programs to serve our aging society.

Finally, the session will facilitate a discussion about a new role in physical therapy to promote successful aging in the U.S.

Speaker(s): Soshi Samejima; Yuri Yoshida; Deborah L. Doerfler

Code: GR-7439

Course Type: Live Sessions