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## IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Assembly Chair .....	1
Planning Committee Report.....	1-2
Program Committee Report.....	3
Program Sessions.....	3-4
Web Committee Report.....	4-5
Early Career Professionals .....	5-6
US Pulmonary Rehabilitation Reimbursement Working Group Report.....	6
Outcomes Measures Working Group Report.....	7
Self Management Working Group Report...7	
PhD, Basic, and, Translational Scientists Working Group Report.....	8
Major Events.....	9
2020 ATS Fellows.....	10

## Message from the Assembly Chair

Welcome to the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly's Spring newsletter. I hope the newsletter will give you a snapshot of the activities your Assembly has been working on over the last 12 months, as well as our plans for the future. It also provides insight into the hard work of our dedicated members who volunteer their time to lead and support the activities of our Assembly—thank you very much for all that you do.

This year has brought extraordinary challenges for all our members, including those working on the front line of the COVID-19 response in critical care and hospital wards; those supporting patients with chronic respiratory disease sheltering from the pandemic at home; the challenges of closing and re-opening pulmonary rehabilitation programs; those delivering education for students, health professionals and patients using remote methods; and our researchers finding new ways to continue advancing the science and practice of pulmonary rehabilitation. The generosity of our Assembly members in supporting colleagues and friends through these challenges has been remarkable, and I would like to thank all of you who have participated in the Assembly's COVID-19 support activities over the last year.

The Pulmonary Rehabilitation Executive Committee is keen to increase opportunities for members to be involved in the Assembly's activities. We are particularly passionate about increasing the involvement of our junior members and new members at this time when our Assembly activities are being conducted remotely. There are many different ways to be involved, and you will never meet a more collegiate, supportive group of people. Please feel free to get in touch with me directly to talk about opportunities, or contact any of the chairs of the groups named in this newsletter.

Another great way to get to know the Assembly is by attending our annual Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly Membership Meeting, to be held on **Tuesday, May 11 at 4 to 6 PM Eastern**. [Register for the Membership Meeting here](#). Everyone is welcome and I hope to see you there!

## PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Jennifer Alison, PhD, MSc, PT, Chair

I finished the last Planning Committee Annual Report with 'safe travels to Philadelphia' but this was not to be. 2020/21 has been a very tough year for all, and especially for those on the front line managing patients with COVID-19.

**Support during COVID-19 Pandemic:** The Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly Planning Committee has tried to support health professionals providing pulmonary rehabilitation to people with chronic lung disease during the pandemic as many pulmonary rehabilitation programs closed and patients were confused and anxious. The Committee developed a document titled: Guidance for re-opening pulmonary rehabilitation programs which was posted on the ATS Pulmonary Rehabilitation website. The document provided practical considerations for safely providing rehabilitation during the pandemic: [View here](#).

(Continued on page 2)



Editor: Anne E Holland, PhD, PT

# PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT (continued)

Planning Committee members also presented a webinar on: [Restarting Pulmonary Rehabilitation Programs during the COVID-19 Pandemic. International Considerations.](#)

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## Assembly/Committee Project Applications for FY2022

Applications for NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for 2022 will open on July 1 and will be open until July 31, 2021. All interested applicants should begin developing their ideas for Assembly and Committee Project Applications.

If you have a suggestion for a project application and need assistance, please contact the PR Planning Committee Chair, Jennifer Alison, PhD, MSc, PT, at [jennifer.alison@sydney.edu.au](mailto:jennifer.alison@sydney.edu.au)

For questions regarding submissions please contact Miriam Rodriguez at: (212) 315-8639 or [Mrodriguez@thoracic.org](mailto:Mrodriguez@thoracic.org)

Please also see the [ATS Project Application Resource Center](#).

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This year our Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly submitted two new applications and one renewal and I am delighted to say that all were successful. The applications were:

1. Renewal: Defining modern pulmonary rehabilitation: A consensus process. Lead, Professor Anne Holland
2. New Project: Rehabilitation for people with respiratory disease and frailty: an ATS workshop report. Lead, Dr. Matthew Maddocks
3. New Project: Pulmonary Rehabilitation: An Official American Thoracic Society Clinical Practice Guideline. Lead, Professor Carly Rochester.

We look forward to the outcomes of these important projects.

**Assembly Awards:** Huge congratulations to the following 2020 Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly Award recipients:

- Clinical Associate Professor Rachael Evans, MBChB, FRCP, PhD who was the recipient of the Early Career Research Achievement Award
- Professor Pat Camp PT, PhD, who received the Recognition Award for the Americas
- Professor Martijn Spruit PT, PhD, who received the Recognition Award for Outside the Americas
- Dr. Brian Tiep MD, who received the Emeritus Award.

During 2020, the Planning Committee reviewed the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly Awards and made the following revisions. The Research Achievement Award has been amended to include two awards: an Early-career and a Mid-career Research Achievement Award. The rationale for the change was that clinicians need time to develop their research careers and an early- and a mid-career award would enable recognition of the outstanding work of members of our assembly at various career stages. The Recognition awards have been amended to be a Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly Recognition Award and a Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly Lifetime Achievement Award.

Details of the criteria for each of the awards and nomination forms are available at on the [PR Awards webpage](#).

**Apprentice Program:** During 2020 the Planning Committee had its first apprentice through the ATS Apprenticeship Program. This was a great success and we are looking forward to welcoming a new apprentice in 2021. If you are interested, please look for this opportunity next year as the apprenticeship enables you to learn more about how the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly and the ATS operates.

**Future Plans:** The Committee plans to review the progress on the recommendations and action items highlighted in the Official American Thoracic Society/European Respiratory Society Policy Statement: Enhancing Implementation, Use, and Delivery of Pulmonary Rehabilitation (Rochester CL et al. Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2015;192:1373-86) and determine how further progress can be made if required.

My term as Chair of the Planning Committee is up and I would like to welcome **Professor Mick Steiner** as the next chair and congratulate him on this appointment.

It has been a great pleasure and privilege to chair the Planning Committee for the last 3 years. The Committee has a good representation of national and international members and professional disciplines which brings a world-wide and discipline-wide perspective to our work. I would really like to thank the Committee for their wise council, hard work, support and good humour during the last 3 years.

I hope many of you can join the ATS Virtual Conference on May 14th-19th. Stay safe.

**Planning Committee Members:** Jennifer Alison (Chair), Jean Bourbeau, Brian Carlin, Richard Casaburi, Rebecca Crouch, Christine Garvey, Roger Goldstein, Jose Jardim, Linda Nici, Carolyn Rochester, Rachel Tappan, Linzy Houchen-Wolloff, Thomas Cascino (apprentice member).

# PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Pat Camp, PhD, PT, Chair and Felicity Blackstock, PhD, PT, Chair-Elect

Programming for the ATS 2021 International Conference started in the summer of 2020, even while we were still delivering content as part of ATS 2020 Virtual. The 2021 conference committee worked hard to create an excellent program for ATS 2021.

## Post-Graduate Course

Pulmonary Rehabilitation: Creating, Developing and Maintaining an Effective Program

## Scientific Symposium

An Integrated System: Impacts of Skeletal Muscle and Cardiac Physiology in COPD (on demand)  
Rehabilitation and COVID-19: Opportunities and Challenges

## Mini-Symposium

New Insights in Pulmonary Rehabilitation

## Thematic Poster Sessions

Rehabilitation in the Time of COVID-19  
Beyond COPD: Growing the Reach of Pulmonary Rehabilitation  
Advancing Pulmonary Rehabilitation: Innovations in Design and Delivery

## Meet the Expert

Frailty Assessment in Respiratory Disease – Dr. Matthew Maddocks

We look forward to welcoming you to the virtual ATS 2021!

**Program Committee Members:** Pat Camp (Chair), Felicity Blackstock (Chair elect), Surya Bhatt, Chris Burtin, Rachael Evans, Shirley Ngai, Sarah Roark, Mick Steiner, Clarice Tang, and Abebaw Yohannes.

## ATS 2021 SESSIONS SPONSORED BY THE ASSEMBLY ON PULMONARY REHABILITATION

Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Time (EST)
<b>Sunday, May 16, 2021</b>			
A1	REHABILITATION AND COVID-19: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES	Scientific Symposium	8:00 AM - 9:30 AM
<b>Tuesday, May 18, 2021</b>			
C14	NEW INSIGHTS IN PULMONARY REHABILITATION	Mini Symposium	3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 19, 2021</b>			
ME21	FRAILTY ASSESSMENT IN RESPIRATORY DISEASE	Meet the Experts	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
<b>Tuesday, June 8, 2021</b>			
PG2	PULMONARY REHABILITATION: CREATING, DEVELOPING, AND MAINTAINING AN EFFECTIVE PROGRAM	Postgraduate Course On-Demand	10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

### Sessions of General Interest

Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Time (EST)
<b>Sunday, May 16, 2021</b>			
A1	<a href="#">REHABILITATION AND COVID-19: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES</a>	Scientific Symposium	8:00 am - 9:30 am
A11	<a href="#">ATS PRESIDENT'S SYMPOSIUM: CAN RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES IN RESPIRATORY HEALTH BE ELIMINATED?</a>	Scientific Symposium	3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
<b>Monday, May 17, 2021</b>			
B1	<a href="#">MIND THE GAP: ENDING GENDER DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN CRITICAL CARE</a>	Scientific Symposium	6:00 am - 7:30 am
B7	<a href="#">BREAKING NEWS: CLINICAL TRIAL RESULTS IN PULMONARY MEDICINE</a>	Scientific Symposium	10:00 am - 11:30 am

(Continued on page 4)

Recorded			
K1	<a href="#">VACCINES ON THE HORIZON: IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE AND POLICY – Kristen Feemster, MD, MPH, MSHP</a>	Keynote Series	On-Demand
K2	<a href="#">BREATHING NEW LIFE INTO RESEARCH AND PRACTICE WITH SEX AND GENDER SCIENCE – Cara Tannenbaum, MDCM, MSc</a>	Keynote Series	On-Demand
K3	<a href="#">CRISIS COMMUNICATION IN A RESPIRATORY PANDEMIC: THE COMPLICATED INTERSECTION OF MEDIA, DATA, AND POLITICS – Vinay Gupta, MD, MPA, MST</a>	Keynote Series	On-Demand
K4	<a href="#">THE CLIMATE GAP: CONNECTING EQUITY AND SUSTAINABILITY TO ADVANCE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE – Rachel Morello-Frosch, PhD, MPH</a>	Keynote Series	On-Demand

## WEB COMMITTEE REPORT

Claire Nolan, PT PhD, Chair

We have had a successful year with a further increase in the committee's activity. The following link brings you to the Assembly's website where you can access content we have produced to date: [View here](#). Please contact [c.nolan@rbht.nhs.uk](mailto:c.nolan@rbht.nhs.uk) if you have any suggestions for our activities or would like to get involved in webinars, podcasts or quarterly bites.

**Journal Club:** Since May 2020, the Web Committee have organized nine online Journal Clubs (see table below). Please note webinars are available for ATS and non-ATS members. They are a rich source of education material. All historical webinars can be accessed at any time via the ATS PR website under the 'Journal Club' header on the left-hand side of the screen. Thank you to all of the authors, presenters and expert panel members who participated in our webinars. Thank you also to Bridget Nance at ATS for providing the technical support.

Date	Article
June 2020	Triest, Filip JJ, et al. "Disease-specific comorbidity clusters in COPD and accelerated aging." <i>Journal of clinical medicine</i> 8.4 (2019): 511.
June 2020	Discussion-based webinar: Clinical aspects of COVID recovery (webinar hosted in conjunction with RSF assembly)
July 2020	Discussion-based webinar: Restarting PR services
September 2020	Barker, Ruth E., et al. "The effects of a video intervention on Posthospitalization pulmonary rehabilitation uptake. A randomized controlled trial." <i>American journal of respiratory and critical care medicine</i> 201.12 (2020): 1517-1524.
October 2020	Camillo, Carlos Augusto, et al. "Effects of downhill walking in pulmonary rehabilitation for patients with COPD: a randomised controlled trial." <i>European Respiratory Journal</i> 56.3 (2020).
November 2020	Lindenauer, Peter K., et al. "Association between initiation of pulmonary rehabilitation after hospitalization for COPD and 1-year survival among Medicare beneficiaries." <i>Jama</i> 323.18 (2020): 1813-1823.
February 2021	Hansen, Henrik, et al. "Supervised pulmonary tele-rehabilitation versus pulmonary rehabilitation in severe COPD: a randomised multicentre trial." <i>Thorax</i> 75.5 (2020): 413-421.
March 2021	Pavitt, Matthew J., et al. "Oral nitrate supplementation to enhance pulmonary rehabilitation in COPD: ON-EPIC a multicentre, double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomised parallel group study." <i>Thorax</i> 75.7 (2020): 547-555.
April 2021	Nyberg, Andre, et al. "Low-load/high-repetition elastic band resistance training in patients with COPD: a randomized, controlled, multicenter trial." <i>The clinical respiratory journal</i> 9.3 (2015): 278-288.

**Podcasts:** We have recorded seven podcasts. They are all available to download (with the historical podcasts) from the assembly website: <https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies/pr/podcasts.php>.

Thank you to everyone who contributed over the past year, and to Maribel Lim at ATS Head Office for her technical support.

- **Physiotherapy management for COVID-19 in the acute hospital setting: a conversation with Dr. Peter Thomas:** Dr. Claire Nolan interviews Dr. Peter Thomas about his experience of the physiotherapy management for COVID-19 in an acute hospital.
- **Exercise immunology in COPD and severe asthma:** A discussion between Dr. Alex Jenkins and Dr. Arwel Jones on this interesting topic.
- **Assessment of frailty in chronic respiratory disease:** Dr. Rafael Mesquita discusses this emerging area with Dr. Matthew Madocks.
- **Climate change and chronic respiratory disease:** Dr. Claire Nolan in conversation with Dr. Mona Sarfaty
- **Health Inequality in Pulmonary Rehabilitation:** Dr. Pat Camp and Dr. Claire Nolan discuss health inequality in pulmonary rehabilitation and how we can work differently to address these issues.

## WEB COMMITTEE REPORT (continued)

- **Self-Management Interventions in Chronic Respiratory Disease:** Dr. Linda Nici and Dr. Rachel Tappan discuss the importance of self-management skills for people with chronic respiratory disease such as COPD and how health care providers can intervene to help build these skills.
- **The Application of Pulmonary Rehabilitation in Children With Chronic Respiratory Diseases:** In conversation with Dr. Andres Camino, Dr. Alpa Patel gives an overview of the pediatric cardiopulmonary rehabilitation program at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, OH. Dr. Patel explains the advantages of this novel approach to children with acute and chronic respiratory illnesses and she also provides insight into the future directions in this exciting and evolving field.

**Quarterly Bites:** We have continued the success of our quarterly bites, which capture different views about subjects of interest and highlight relevant content in both the clinical and academic settings. We have had a further six quarterly bites this year. Thank you to those who have participated.

- **Nonlinear Periodized Exercise Training in Pulmonary Rehabilitation: the devil is in the details!:** Dr. Peter Klijn
- **Update on Frailty in Chronic Lung Disease and Lung Transplantation from American Thoracic Society 2020 Virtual Conference:** Dr. Karan Chohan and Dr. Dmitry Rozenberg
- **Focus on young investigators: a chat about the grant opportunities sponsored by ATS:** Dr. Alessandra Adami
- **Case Studies of Services Restarting Pulmonary Rehabilitation Programmes Following the COVID-19 Pandemic:** Dr. Surya Bhatt, Jason Hitchcock, Dr. Rainer Gloeckl, Prof Jennifer Alison, Prof Lissa Spencer, Dr. Sally Wooton, Dr. Renae McNamara, Mrs Emma Chaplin, Matthew Florento, Cindy Ellerton, Suzanna Mangovski, Prof Roger Goldstein MD, Dr. Claire Nolan
- **Pulmonary Rehabilitation in the United States: Updates on Covered Indications and Reimbursement:** Dr. Francois Abi Fadel, Mollie Corbett, Chris Garvey
- **Moving forward with telerehabilitation for people with chronic lung disease:** Dr. Henrik Hansen and Dr. Nina Godtfredsen

**Twitter:** We opened our Twitter account in 2015 and now have 16231 followers. Our twitter handle is [@PR\\_Assembly](#) so please do follow us if you use this platform. We tweet about @PR\_Assembly activities, relevant publication updates, re-tweet all relevant PR related tweets including from individual programmes. These and other issues related to the Assembly are regularly communicated through this account. We hope to see this platform continue to develop as a means of communication for our multi-disciplinary assembly members and patients across multiple continents.

Sadly, Dr. Rafael Mesquita has left the committee, and Dr. Claire Nolan's tenure as chair will end in May. We would like to thank them for all of their contributions and dedication over the past few years. Dr. Alex Jenkins will take over as chair in May. We are delighted that four new members have joined the committee in the past year: Dr. Enya Daynes, Dr. Francois Abi Fadel, Dr. Tania Janaudis-Ferreira and Dr. Andres Herrera Camino. Welcome! We are also hoping to welcome an apprentice to our team, who'll join us for a 12-month period.

Our enthusiastic, dedicated, international group of committee members all contribute to the activity described above. A huge thank you for all of your effort.

We are very grateful to all the people who have contributed helping us make a success of the ATS PR web-committee activities described above. We encourage all assembly members to be involved, but particularly want to encourage our new or more junior faculty members to volunteer – please don't wait to be asked; we are keen to hear from you. Please e-mail [c.nolan@rbht.nhs.uk](mailto:c.nolan@rbht.nhs.uk) or [alex.jenkins@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:alex.jenkins@nottingham.ac.uk) with your ideas and/or what you would like to be involved with.

**Web Committee Members:** Dr. Claire Nolan (Chair), Dr. Dmitry Rozenberg (Canada), Dr. Alex Jenkins (UK), Dr. Lindsey Houchen-Wolloff (UK), Dr. Rachel Tappen (USA), Dr. Enya Daynes (UK), Dr. Francois Abi Fadel (USA), Dr. Tania Janaudis-Ferreira (Canada) and Dr. Andres Herrera Camino (USA).

## EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP REPORT

Sarah Roark, MD, Chair

The PR Early Career Professional Working Group aims to promote and facilitate the involvement of (relatively) junior ATS members (students, fellows, and junior faculty) in the PR Assembly, the PR community and the ATS as a whole. This is a priority for the PR Assembly in 2021, to ensure that our junior members have opportunities to become involved in the PR Assembly when we are not able to meet in person. Our activities include:

*(Continued on Page 6)*

# EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP REPORT (continued)

**ATS Assembly Mentoring Program:** The goals of the Mentoring Program are to provide an avenue for junior faculty/clinicians and trainee participation and networking in the PR Assembly; potentially to provide advice on a specific PR clinical or research related query and to help with navigating the ATS meeting. The Planning Committee, Program Committee and Web Committee will each welcome an apprentice for the 2021-2022 year. Mentorship Program applications for Mentors and Mentees opens soon, please consider signing up! If you'd like to hear a bit more about the program and the experience of previous participants, check out our podcast housed on the Breathe Easy Podcast page of the ATS.

**Virtual Happy Hour:** The ECWG hosted a successful "virtual happy hour" where participants were able to ask questions and hear from Dr. Anne Holland. Another "virtual happy hour" is planned during the May ATS International Conference. Please watch for the announcement!

The Early Career Professional Working Group is keen to hear from members who would like to become involved in our work, or who have ideas about how we can support our early career members. Please feel free to get in contact with our chair: [Sarah.Roark@dhha.org](mailto:Sarah.Roark@dhha.org)

**Members of the Early Career Professional Working group:** Sarah Roark, Alessandra Adami, Aimee Layton, Bryan Ross, Ruth Barker, Clarice Tang, Stephanie Robinson, Andres Herrera-Camino, Narelle Cox.

# US PULMONARY REHABILITATION REIMBURSEMENT WORKING GROUP REPORT

Chris Garvey, NP, Chair

The past year has aimed to address opportunities to improve the foundation for equitable PR payment as well as awareness of the multidimensional benefits of PR among providers, patients and payers. Our collaborative group represents experts from ATS, AACVPR, ACCP, AARC, APTA, as well as legislative experts and patient representatives who lead national foundations. Work group efforts includes:

- Email and social media campaign to achieve improved PR awareness, access and ultimately payment. This includes development of an infographic focused on increasing the awareness of the potential impact of pulmonary rehabilitation on mortality (see page 6).
- Collaboration with ACCP to develop 2 new PR CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) codes targeting payment for MD office-based PR. Go live timeline is 2022.
- Development of a national open access PR database adapted from Moscovice, et al, CHEST, 2019. The database will be used to promote PR access and awareness, as well as survey PR providers to address reimbursement challenges and learning needs.
- Update of 'Pulmonary Rehabilitation in the United States: Updates on Covered Indications and Reimbursement' are located on the [ATS Pulmonary Rehabilitation Website - Quarterly Bites](#).

**Members of the Reimbursement Working Group:** Brian Carlin, Richard Casaburi, Judy Corn, Rebecca Crouch, Gary Ewart, Mary Gawlicki, Anne Marie Hummel, Alex Jenkins, Aimee Kizziar, Grace Anne Dorney Koppel, Trina Limberg, Karen Lui, Jim Lamberti, Katherine Menson, Phil Porte, Carolyn Rochester, John Studdard, and Nicole Fejoo, ATS staff. We sincerely thank our work group members for their tireless commitment to improving PR payment, awareness and access.

## Pulmonary Rehabilitation

—Live Better and *Live Longer*

### Pulmonary Rehabilitation & Mortality in the United States

- COPD is the 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause of death worldwide
- >16 million people diagnosed with COPD in the US
- Recent assessment of claims data for 197,396 Medicare beneficiaries discharged after hospitalization for COPD
- **37%** In mortality in those who received pulmonary rehabilitation within 3 months of hospital discharge
- **But only 3-4% of Medicare beneficiaries with COPD receive Pulmonary Rehabilitation**

**Pulmonary Rehabilitation**

- ↑ Exercise capacity
- ↑ Quality of life
- ↓ Exacerbations

Lindenaer et al. (2020). Association Between Initiation of Pulmonary Rehabilitation After Hospitalization for COPD and 1-year Survival Among Medicare Beneficiaries. JAMA. 323:1813-1823

**Pulmonary rehabilitation helps patients feel better and live longer, but is underutilized**

For more Information about pulmonary rehabilitation, visit [www.livebetter.org](http://www.livebetter.org)

# OUTCOME MEASURES WORKING GROUP REPORT

Sue Lareau, RN, MS, and Rachel Evans, MD, PhD, Co-Chairs

The PRA Advisory Group was formed in 2018 to develop a portfolio of outcome measures used in pulmonary rehabilitation. This section of the website presents information on categories of outcome measures commonly used to evaluate pulmonary rehabilitation. Several categories of outcome measures relating to health-related quality of life, field tests, and learning outcomes are now available to view on the assembly website: [View here](#).

Rather than wait to have the entire collection of outcomes, we elected to begin rolling out outcome measures on health-related quality of life, learning, and field tests. We plan to follow this with outcomes on exercise, balance, dyspnea and fatigue and physical activity.

What will be reported? The content includes a brief description of the measure, developer's contact information and cost if known, its psychometric properties (including responsiveness to pulmonary rehabilitation), and the minimal important difference (where known) etc. Initially, most of the outcome information will report on results from people with COPD since this is the most widely studied condition in pulmonary rehabilitation programs. We will expand the information to other conditions as the site evolves.

We have numerous people to thank for helping develop these documents. Their names are listed on the document, however, please do not contact them for copies of the instruments etc.

We would appreciate your feedback on the value of this site. We will be monitoring the use of this site prior to rolling out the next several categories of outcomes over the next 4-6 months. Please let us know your thoughts on this offering.

# SELF MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP REPORT

Linda Nici, MD, Chair

The self-management working group was formed in the summer of 2020 in response to the needs and interests of PR Assembly members who felt it was important to increase visibility, clinical practice, and science in this vital part of the PR intervention.

## Goals of the Self-management Working Group:

Promote standards for effective delivery of self-management

Establish competencies for healthcare providers in the delivery of self-management

Encourage dialogue between PR assembly members that can enhance visibility and advance 'best practice' in this field

## Work thus far:

Podcast on PR webpage- Self-Management Interventions in Chronic Respiratory Disease

## Planned Projects:

Podcast series in conjunction with the web committee on topics of relevance to self-management

Develop a folder of educational resources that members can access through the PR Assembly webpage

Develop a "toolkit" with additional resources for the delivery of self-management interventions including appropriate outcome measures

**Additional Information:** As a working group is a finite structure with finite project goals (2 years in length), the SM working group along with EC leadership is exploring the option of transitioning this working group to a Section housed permanently within the PR Assembly.

We believe the area of self-management is such a crucial part of successful rehabilitation that the interests of the Assembly would be best served by having a active Section on this topic that can interdigitate with the Assembly for programming, projects, and member advancement in the field. This topic will be further discussed and debated at our Assembly membership meeting during the 2021 International Conference.

**Current members of the Self-management working group:** Linda Nici (chair), Tanja Effing, Jean Bourbeau, Felicity Blackstock, Nicola Roberts, Tania Janaudis-Ferreira, Abebaw Yohannes, Joseph Russo, Eileen Collins (Nursing Assembly), Daryl Thorton (Behavioral Science Assembly), Nicole Feijoo (ATS staff).

# PhD, BASIC AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENTISTS WORKING GROUP REPORT (continued)

Our PTBS working group is composed of members from multiple assemblies that get together monthly to discuss issues of importance to members of ATS that are non-practicing clinicians. We also welcome input from physician-scientists who are primarily research-focused. Because ATS is such a large organization and largely one that is clinically focused, the PTBS working group is focused on creating a smaller community structure for support, networking and advocacy to ATS leadership. The co-chairs for the past year have been Beth Moore from the University of Michigan and Tom Mariani from the University of Rochester. The PTBS working group is currently housed within the RSF assembly despite membership being across the ATS.

## Accomplishments and Ongoing Projects:

**Reception for researchers:** In 2019, we helped to host the PBTS reception as part of virtual ATS in the Science and Innovation Center (SIC). There were 225 people registered with over 70 attendees. We also actively participated in the planning of events in the SIC. We are actively helping to plan the 2020 events now

**Seminar Database:** The COVID disruption created real challenges to performing research, networking and opportunities for speaking engagements for faculty. In response to this, we created a database of researchers eager to provide seminars (virtually or in person in future) on a variety of topics. Our hope was that this database would increase opportunities for institutions to include more research-oriented seminars in their weekly offerings. As of March, 2021, the database has 133 scientists! You can fill a lot of seminar series with that! Check out the [database here](#).

**Social Justice:** We have a subcommittee talking about ways our PTBS working group and ATS overall can better respond to issues of racism and social injustice within our society and institutions. We welcome you to join this ongoing conversation!

**Job Postings:** We advocated for the ability to advertise for post-docs and to have post-docs be able to post their CVs to the ATS job board site free of charge. Be sure to check out this [resource here](#).

**DocMatters:** We have been working with DocMatters to determine if this platform can be useful for discussion of issues pertaining to research and non-clinical matters. We met with DocMatters executives to help map out strategies for better engagement with research-focused members of ATS.

**Technique videos:** We have a subgroup working on identifying common and important research techniques and getting quality videos made and published in an ATS venue to share that knowledge more broadly.

**Awards:** We are working to be sure that non-practicing clinicians are identified and nominated for many of the assembly-based and society based awards.

**Important Survey:** We are planning a survey of Pulmonary, Sleep and Pediatric Division Chiefs to gather data to better understand how PhD and non-practicing clinical faculty are hired and what barriers and opportunities may exist for strengthening engagement between researchers and clinicians. We hope these data will provide the foundation for an ATS project proposal that aims to address this important issue. Let us know if you want to be involved!

# Assembly on Pulmonary Rehabilitation (PR) Membership Meeting

Tuesday, May 11, 2021  
4 to 6 PM EST

[Register Now](#)



**ATS 2021**

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

**MAY 14-19** #ATS2021

**ATS 2021**  
May 14-19

Showcasing  
breakthrough research  
in respiratory care.

[Register Now](#)

# The American Thoracic Society

is pleased to announce our new

## 2020 ATSF Fellows



2020  
ATSF

**David Itiro Kasahara**  
Arrowhead Pharmaceutical

**Abebaw Yohannes**  
Azusa Pacific University

**Elena Goncharova**  
University of California, Davis

**Jose Antonio Castro Rodriguez**  
Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile

**David Griffith**  
National Jewish Health

**Alexander Sy**  
Wake Forest Health

**Susmita Chowdhuri**  
School of Medicine,  
Pulmonary/Critical Care and Sleep

**Samya Nasr**  
University of Michigan

**Adam Benjafield**  
ResMed

**Richard Casaburi**  
Lundquist Institute for Biomedical Innovation  
at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center

**Obianuju Ozoh**  
Department of Medicine, College of  
Medicine, University of Lagos

**Lida Hariri**  
Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard  
Medical School

**Yuksel Peker**  
Koc University School of Medicine

**Usha Raj**  
University of Illinois at Chicago

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