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The PHO awards scholarships to early-career PROMIS researchers and clinicians to participate in the Annual PROMIS International Conference. Scholarships are funded by the PHO with generous donations from members and others.

Scholarship Award Recipients

2019 – 6th Annual PROMIS International Conference, Oct. 25-27 (San Diego)

Rachel Campbell, PhD is an early career postdoctoral researcher in Australia at the University of Sydney, Faculty of Science, School of Psychology, Quality of Life Office. Her research focuses on optimizing the use of patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs) in oncology research and clinical practice. As part of her role at the QOL Office, she also provides advice and training to the 14 national cancer clinical trials groups in Australia to optimize the design, conduct, analysis, interpretation, and reporting of patient-reported outcomes in their clinical trials.

Sarah Leiber, MD, MSc is a rheumatology fellow at the Hospital for Special Surgery, in New York City with an interest in developing a career as a clinician investigator in systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) and health-related quality of life (HRQoL). In her current work, she studies whether frailty and sarcopenia, a degenerative loss of muscle mass and strength, could capture a vulnerable subset in SLE. She is particularly interested in using PROMIS measures to investigate HRQoL.

Michiel Luijten, MSc is a PhD Student in psychometrics/clinimetrics at the Amsterdam UMC, the Netherlands. His thesis is about the implementation of PROMIS (CATs) in the Netherlands with the (electronic) PROM-portal KLIK that is used in more than 20 medical centers in the Netherlands. His research focuses on the application of PROMIS CATs, in clinical practice using visual feedback options to facilitate discussions of PROMIS assessments by clinicians with their patients during consultations.

Alexander Obbarius, MD is a resident and research fellow at the Department of Psychosomatic Medicine at Charité university hospital in Berlin, Germany, and a participant of the Health-Outcomes Research Working group since 2012. His primary research interests are self-reported assessment of chronic pain and the identification of subgroups of chronic pain patients by the use of patient-reported outcomes.

2020 – 6th Annual PROMIS International Conference, Oct. 25-27 (virtual)

Leigh Andrews, MA is a PhD candidate in clinical psychology at the University of Delaware. His work on one grant is intended to develop symptom clusters using PROMIS and other PRO measures, and he is

utilizing PROMIS depression and anxiety items on another grant to monitor symptoms during a self-management treatment for individuals with spinal cord injuries who suffer from anxiety and depression

Svetlana Avulova, MD is a first-year urologic oncology fellow at Mayo Clinic. Her research interests include addressing disparities in urologic oncology. She designed and initiated a prospective hypothesis-generating study evaluating women's sexual function, before and after radical cystectomy using the PROMIS Female Brief Profile.

Erin Chew, MD is an internal medicine resident at Johns Hopkins and a future rheumatologist. Her current research focus is on patient-related outcomes scales in the calculation of minimal disease activity in psoriatic arthritis.

Broca Stern, PhD, PTR, CHT, a post-doctoral fellow at Northwestern, completed her PhD at New York University and recently began a post-doctoral fellowship at Northwestern. The PROMIS framework and measures were an integral part of her dissertation, which explored recovery after orthopedic trauma from a behavioral perspective.

Dan Zhao is a MA student in the School of Nursing, Soochow University, in Suzhou, China. Her research focus is on the use of patient-reported outcome measures in chronic diseases, especially in inflammatory bowel disease. Her thesis is on the cross-cultural translation and psychometric properties validation on the PROMIS measures of self-efficacy for managing chronic conditions.

2021 – 7th Annual PROMIS International Conference, Oct. 17-19 (virtual)

Tingting Cai is a PhD student in the School of Nursing, Fudan University, in Shanghai, China. She is engaged in using PROMIS measures in research and clinical practice to promote cancer care for patients with breast cancer.

Erik-Jan Haan, MSc is a PhD student and a physical therapist in the Research Group Lifestyle and Health, HU University of Applied Sciences, in Utrecht, The Netherlands. He is working on PROMIS implementation in primary care physical therapy to reduce the burden for both patients and PTs, and to improve comparability of outcomes. .

Chao Long, MD is a plastic and reconstructive surgery resident at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, is obtaining an MPH at the Bloomberg School of Public Health. Her clinical interests include hand and upper extremity surgery, while her research interests include developing and implementing metrics that support delivery of patient-centered care.

Maria-Sophie Rothmund, BA, BSc is a MSc graduate student at the Medical University Innsbruck, in Innsbruck, Austria. She is working as a research associate, and within their research team they are extending their expertise on quality of life assessment in children with cancer, which is her main research interest.

Sung keun Shim, MS has defended his PhD thesis at Samsung Medical Center/Sungkyunkwan University in Seoul, South Korea. He is working in validating psychometric properties of a Korean version of the PROMIS physical function item bank and establishing Korean general population norm scores, including DIF analysis for language. His specialty area is focused on patient-reported outcomes and psycho oncology.

Vandana Sookdeo, MD is a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Miami, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center in Miami, Florida. She leads the administrative and operational efforts for the My Wellness Check Initiative, which aims to understand the needs of cancer survivors and develop a comprehensive model of care that effectively meets their needs, reduces cancer burden, and enhances quality of life.

Emma Stallwood, BPHE, BA is a graduate student in clinical psychology at McMaster University in Toronto, Ontario Canada. Her interest is in high quality measurement in pediatric mental health research, and she aims to implement pediatric PROMIS questionnaires in pediatric mental health trials.