



www.promishealth.org

Scholarships Program

The PHO Scholarships Program started in 2019 and 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.

To Donate: www.promishealth.org/give-back-by-giving-forward/

Scholarship Award Recipients 2019-2022

2022 – 8th Annual PROMIS International Conference, Oct. 23-24, Prague, Czech Republic

Betul Bay, MSc is a PhD student in nursing at the University of Birmingham in Birmingham, United Kingdom. The focus of her dissertation project is development of a digital pain management application for use in the home setting of children with cancer. PROMIS will be important in defining a minimum pain intervention set that can be applied and guide pain management for children with cancer being cared for in the home setting.

David Bernstein, MD, MBA, MEI is a resident in the Harvard Combined Orthopaedic Residency Program/Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA USA. His current research is focused on using PROMIS in clinical practice to predict outcomes, as part of value-based health care initiatives, and to help address issues related to social determinants of health (SDoH) and better understand health disparities. One of the core features of his most recent work is assessing differences in access to care and whether certain patient populations initially present with worse symptom severity.

Laurien Brauner, MSc is a PhD student at the Hogeschool Utrecht, University of Applied Sciences, in Utrecht, The Netherlands. As a speech and language therapist working with children, adolescents and adults, patient-reported outcome measures are used in addition to performance-based tests in determining optimal and valuable therapy goals and intervention methods. She is part of a research group working on development and implementation of a measure tailored to the experience of people with communication disorders.

Wajiha Ghazi, MSc is a graduate student working in clinical research at Toronto General Hospital in Toronto, Canada. She is involved in methodological and empirical projects related to validating PROMIS in patients with chronic kidney disease and integrating physical function assessments at clinical settings. Due to her background and expertise in kinesiology, she was drawn to the physical function domain of PROMIS.

Gregory Gooding, BA is completing his MSc in experimental medicine with a concentration in digital health innovation at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec Canada. Current projects include harmonizing a core set of patient-valued Solid Organ Transplant (SOT) Patient-Reported Outcome (PRO) domains with stakeholders (patients, clinicians, researchers, administrators).

Thymen Houwen, MD is a PhD student at the Erasmus Medical Center in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, and is currently working at the Elisabeth-Tweesteden Ziekenhuis in Tilburg, The Netherlands. His work has focused on implementing PROMIS CAT measures into the practice of the trauma surgery department with the aim of showing the high potential and relevance of PROMIS to both trauma patients and trauma professionals.

Renee Jones, MPH is a PhD student at the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne in Australia. Her specialty area is paediatric PROMs and her research has focused on evaluating the psychometric performance of the PROMIS-25 paediatric profile and other commonly used instruments. She will explore how generic paediatric HRQoL instruments can be used in routine clinical care as patient-reported outcome measures.

Heena Manglani, PhD is a T32 postdoctoral research fellow in Integrative Medicine at Harvard Medical School and a clinical fellow in the Department of Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA USA. She is leveraging PROMIS measures to identify individual risk factors for physical, psychological, and cognitive decline in people with multiple sclerosis. Her aim is to facilitate the timely delivery of clinical interventions, including psychotherapy, cognitive rehabilitation, and sleep medicine, to promote patient-centered whole health care.

Lynn Tanner, MPT is a PhD student at the University of Minnesota School of Nursing in Minneapolis, MN USA. She will measure HRQOL in survivors of pediatric cancer using PROMIS measures and examine differences between survivors who did and did not receive physical therapy services during their cancer experience. She will also analyze associations between HRQOL and clinical physical performance measures such as balance and walking capacity.

Iraís Yañez-Alvarez, PhD is a fellow at the National Institute of Public Health of Mexico in Morelos, Mexico. As a researcher in quality evaluation and quality improvement with a focus on maternal and neonatal care, she has experience in measurement of quality health outcomes through direct contact with women from vulnerable settings who seek healthcare in the Mexican public healthcare system. Her aim is to gain understanding of diseases from the patients' perspective and give voice to Mexican women on their experience with the health system.

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.

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.

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.