

Meaningful Outcome Measures in Adult Hearing Health Care

Committee

Theodore G. Ganiats

Chair

Theodore G. Ganiats, M.D., is Professor Emeritus of Family Medicine at the University of California San Diego (UCSD). Dr. Ganiats is a member of many professional associations, including the Society for Medical Decision Making, Academy Health, the American Public Health Association, and the International Society for Quality of Life Research. He was the founder and first executive director of the UCSD Health Services Research Program. While representing the American Academy of Family Physicians, Dr. Ganiats reviewed dozens of reports for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. He has served as a member or chair of more than 50 national guideline, quality, and performance panels spanning multiple disciplines. He served as the first Director of the National Center for Excellence in Primary Care Research at AHRQ. In 2017-2018, he participated in a project with the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery related to the development of measures of quality of care for age-related hearing loss. Dr. Ganiats has an M.D. from UCSD. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine.

Kendall M. Campbell

Member

Kendall M. Campbell, M.D., FAAFP, joined UTMB Health after his time at the East Carolina University Brody School of Medicine, where he most recently served as the Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Chief Academic Officer, and Associate Professor of Family Medicine. He also served as their Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion and Director of their Research Group for Underrepresented Minorities in Academic Medicine. Prior to his tenure at East Carolina University, Dr. Campbell served on the faculties at Florida State University College of Medicine and the University of Florida College of Medicine. Dr. Campbell earned a Bachelor of Science (BS) from Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, FL, and a Doctorate of Medicine from the University of Florida College of Medicine in Gainesville, FL. He completed a residency with the Tallahassee Memorial Family Medicine Residency Program in Tallahassee, FL. Dr. Campbell currently holds the Sealy Hutchings and Lucille Wright Hutchings Chair in Family Medicine.

Tamala David

Member

Tamala David, Ph.D., MPA, MS, FNP, is a native resident of Rochester, New York; an area with a large Deaf population. She grew up in a household with a deaf grandmother (a sign language user) and is passionate about issues related to the health and well-being of deaf and hard of hearing older adults. She received her bachelor's degree in nursing and master's degree in public administration (with an emphasis in healthcare and a certificate in non-profit management) from the State University of New York (SUNY) College at Brockport. She received her master's degree in nursing, with a specialty as a family nurse practitioner, and a Ph.D. in health practice research from the University of Rochester. In general, her projects have addressed population health issues at local, national, and international levels. She has more than a decade of experience providing education related to community health nursing and deaf health to nurses and physicians at all levels locally, nationally, and internationally. At SUNY Brockport, she teaches courses related to community health nursing, locally and internationally. She has received compensation as a member of the Rochester Prevention Research Center: National Center for Deaf Health Research (NCDHR) at the University of Rochester since 2004 and has been a member of other research/health project teams at the University of Rochester since 2015. She has served in uncompensated roles on advisory committees and the board for the Rochester Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America since 2017.

Larry E. Humes

Member

Larry E. Humes, Ph.D., is a Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Indiana University. Professor Humes has served as associate editor, editor, and editorial board member for several audiology journals. Professor Humes has received the Honors of the Association and the Alfred Kawana Award for Lifetime Achievement in Publications from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and the James Jerger Career Award for Research in Audiology and a Presidential Award from the American Academy of Audiology. He is a fellow of the Acoustical Society of America and of the International Collegium on Rehabilitative Audiology (ICRA). His most recent research activities have focused on age-related changes in auditory perception, including speech-understanding ability, and on outcome measures for hearing aids. He is currently a Co-Principal Investigator on a research contract from PCORI evaluating hearing-aid fitting methods. Professor Humes received his Ph.D. in audiology from Northwestern University, where he now holds an appointment as an Adjunct Professor.

Alan M. Jette

Member

Alan M. Jette, Ph.D., is an Emeritus Professor and Dean at Boston University's Sargent College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences and served as Professor of Health Policy & Management at the Boston University School of Public Health from 2005-2017. He also served as Professor of Rehabilitation Sciences at the Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions from 2012-2021. He is an international expert on rehabilitation and a leader in developing patient-centered rehabilitation outcome measures in a range of challenging clinical areas such as work disability, post-acute care, spinal cord injury, and neurological, orthopedic, and geriatric conditions. He has authored more than 250 publications in the rehabilitation sciences field and served as a principal investigator for numerous studies funded by the National Institutes for Health, the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research, the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research, and several foundations. He has served as a member of more than a dozen NASEM boards and committees. He chaired the Institute of Medicine (IOM) committee that authored the 2007 report, "The Future of Disability in America." In addition to co-chairing the IOM Forum on Aging, Disability, and Independence he was chair of the IOM Committee on the Use of Selected Assistive Products and Technologies in Eliminating or Reducing the Effects of Impairments. He was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2013. He earned a bachelor's degree in physical therapy from the State University of New York at Buffalo and a master's degree and Ph.D. in public health from the University of Michigan.

Colleen G. Le Prell

Member

Colleen G. Le Prell, Ph.D., is the Head of the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing and the Director of the recently launched Clinical Trial Unit at the University of Texas at Dallas, where she holds the Emilie and Phil Schepps Professorship in Hearing Science. Dr. Le Prell has received funding from government, industry, and philanthropic sources for research that programmatically advances the understanding and prevention of noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL). Her research activities are currently funded by the NIH and the Department of Defense. She has previously led clinical trials evaluating possible prevention of NIHL and recently published two comprehensive review papers discussing hearing loss endpoints. Dr. Le Prell previously served as President and in other leadership roles for the National Hearing Conservation Association, currently serves on the CDC-NIOSH National Occupational Research Agenda Hearing Loss Prevention Cross Sector Council, and is an invited participant in the World Health Organization "Make Listening Safe" campaign. She also serves on the Auditory System Study Section for the NIH Center for Scientific Review. She is an Associate Editor for the Journal of Acoustical Society of America and the International Journal of Audiology, and she serves on the editorial board for Hearing Research. In 2020, she was compensated for participation in the Technical Advisory Board Annual Meeting for Hearing Lab Technology. Since 2021, she has received compensation for leading the Scientific Advisory Board for Bellucci Translational Hearing Center Creighton University. From 2021-2023, she was a co-editor for a journal supplement on behalf of the Defense Hearing Center of Excellence (DoD HCE) Pharmaceutical Interventions for Hearing Loss (PIHL) committee: working group on patient outcomes. From 2019-2022, she was a Board Member for the American Academy of Audiology Foundation and on a leadership advisory team for the National Hearing Conservation Association. From 2018-2019 she was a member of the American Academy of Audiology Task Force on the Role of Audiologists in the Provision of Pharmaceutical Agents for the Prevention or Treatment of Hearing Loss. From 2018-2019 she was a member of the American Academy of Audiology Musician Task Force for Best Practices for Working with Musicians. She completed a Ph.D. in psychology and a post-doctoral fellowship in auditory pharmacology at the University of Michigan, in laboratories located at the Kresge Hearing Research Institute.

Uchechukwu Megwalu

Member

Uchechukwu Megwalu, M.D., M.P.H., received his undergraduate degree from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Dr. Megwalu received his medical degree from Washington University School of Medicine, completed his residency at New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, and received his M.P.H. degree from Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. After residency, Dr. Megwalu joined the faculty at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, where he served as Director of Otolaryngology at Queens Hospital Center, and Assistant Regional Director of Otolaryngology for Queens Health Network from 2011 to 2015. Dr. Megwalu joined the Division of Comprehensive Otolaryngology at Stanford in 2016. His clinical interests include thyroid and parathyroid disorders, head and neck tumors, sinusitis, and chronic ear disorders. Dr. Megwalu conducts outcomes/health services research, with a focus on health literacy, health disparities, and comparative effectiveness research.

Catherine Palmer

Member

Catherine V. Palmer, Ph.D., is a Professor in the Departments of Communication Science and Disorders and Otolaryngology at the University of Pittsburgh and serves as the Director of Audiology for the UPMC Integrated Health System. Dr. Palmer conducts funded research in the areas of auditory learning post hearing aid fitting, the relationship between hearing and health outcomes, and matching technology to individual needs. She is currently in the process of developing a hearing screening product, but it is not on the market. She has published over 150 articles and book chapters in these topic areas as well as provided over 200 national and international presentations. Dr. Palmer teaches graduate level amplification courses at the University of Pittsburgh and serves as Editor-in-Chief of Seminars in Hearing. Dr. Palmer is a licensed audiologist in the state of Pennsylvania and is currently working on the development of a simple hearing screening device. Dr. Palmer is a Past President of the American Academy of Audiology and received the Honors of the Academy in 2023. Dr. Palmer received her Ph.D. from Northwestern University prior to joining the faculty at the University of Pittsburgh.

Carla Perissinotto

Member

Carla Perissinotto, M.D., M.H.S., served as the first Associate Chief for Geriatrics Clinical Programs at UCSF from 2017-2021. In that role, she managed both inpatient and outpatient clinical programs. Dr. Perissinotto is a Professor in the Division of Geriatrics, Department of Medicine. She is Board Certified in internal medicine, geriatrics, and palliative medicine. Her main work has been in home-based medical care—where she provides medical care to home bound older adults. Dr. Perissinotto is passionate about working with diverse communities and improving the training of internal medicine residents and all learners in the care of older adults. She was also a recipient of the highly competitive HRSA Geriatric Academic Career Award 2010-2015, with which she developed curricula to teach a wide range of learners on the care of elderly patients in diverse settings. Dr. Perissinotto has also gained national and international recognition for her research on the effects of loneliness on the health of older adults. She is frequently invited to discuss her research and discuss the clinical and policy implications of the health effects of loneliness.

Thomas A. Powers

Member

Thomas A. Powers, Ph.D., is the Founder/Managing Member of Powers Consulting, LLC, providing management consulting to the hearing health industry. Dr. Powers serves as an expert audiology consultant and strategic advisor for the Hearing Industries Association, and a limited partner in Amplifi, LLC. Dr. Powers received his B.S. from the State University of New York at Geneseo, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Audiology from Ohio University. He began his career as a partner in an audiology private practice and has over 35 years of experience in the hearing healthcare industry. Prior to his current role, he was Vice-President, Government Services and Professional Relations for Sivantos, Inc. During his tenure at Siemens/Sivantos he was the Compliance Officer for seven years. Dr. Powers is a member of the American Academy of Audiology, Academy of Dispensing Audiologists, American Speech, Language and Hearing Association, International Society of Audiology, is a Distinguished Policy Fellow in the National Academies of Practice and is a member of the American Auditory Society and served as President from 2004 – 2006. Dr. Powers currently holds an appointment as assistant professor in the Graduate Faculty in Biomedicine at Salus University and as Adjunct Research Professor at Ohio University. In addition to his professional experience, Dr. Powers is also a hearing aid user.

Nicholas Reed

Member

Nicholas Reed, Au.D., Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the Optimal Aging Institute with appointments in the Departments of Otolaryngology—Head & Neck Surgery and Population at the NYU Grossman School of Medicine. He is the director of an Audiology Core, where he oversees the integration and management of hearing measures into multiple large epidemiologic cohort studies and clinical trials. His research focuses on the association of hearing loss among older adults and healthy aging outcomes including cognitive decline and health resource utilization, the impact of hearing intervention on health outcomes, and novel models of hearing care delivery. He was awarded the Early Career Research Award in 2021 from the American Auditory Society. He is currently compensated as an Editor for the American Journal of Audiology and previously served in uncompensated roles on scientific advisory boards for Shoebox Audiometry from 2018 to 2021 and Neosensory from 2021 to 2023. In 2022, Dr. Reed co-authored an editorial on the use of the pure-tone average as a universal metric of hearing to improve public awareness and understanding of hearing. Dr. Reed completed his clinical doctorate at Towson University, an audiology clinical fellowship at Georgetown University Hospital, and his research doctorate at Johns Hopkins University. He previously served on the National Academies committees 'Evaluating Hearing Loss for Individuals with Cochlear Implants' and 'Review of Relevant Literature Regarding Adverse Events Associated with Vaccines'.

Sherri Smith

Member

Sherri L. Smith, Au.D., Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the Department of Head and Neck Surgery & Communication Sciences and is the Chief of Audiology across the Duke University Health System. She holds a faculty appointment in the Department of Population Health Sciences and is a Senior Fellow in the Center for Aging. Prior to joining Duke in 2018, she spent 15 years at the Mountain Home TN Veterans Affairs Medical Center and was an Associate Professor at East Tennessee State University. Dr. Smith's clinical, research, and teaching experience focuses on hearing rehabilitation in older adults, with an emphasis in hearing aids, cochlear implants, and patient-centered audiologic rehabilitation. Dr. Smith has a background in patient reported outcome measure (PROM) development, and the use of several PROMs in the assessment of self-perceived hearing difficulty and hearing rehabilitation outcomes in clinic and in research studies. Dr. Smith is a member of the American Auditory Society; Academy of Rehabilitative Audiology; and the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). She recently was elected Fellow of ASHA. Dr. Smith's training includes her Au.D. and Ph.D. from the University of Florida (2001/2003), followed by completion of the VA Research Career Development program (2005-2013).

Fan-Gang Zeng

Member

Fan-Gang Zeng, Ph.D., is a professor of otolaryngology in the School of Medicine, professor of biomedical engineering in the Samueli School of Engineering, and the founder and director of the Hearing and Speech laboratory at the University of California, Irvine. Dr. Zeng has expertise in engineering better treatments for hearing loss and tinnitus. He is a member of the Collegium Oto-Rhino-Laryngologicum Amicitiae Sacrum and a fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering, the Acoustical Society of America, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. He is the chair of the Editorial Board for The Hearing Journal. Dr. Zeng serves on scientific advisory boards for Hyperacusis Research Inc. and the American Tinnitus Association. He has also served as an expert witness for Advanced Bionics. Dr. Zeng works closely with industry; he holds several patents as well as stock in several companies, but none directly in the space of outcome measures for adult hearing loss. He has financial interests in several cochlear implant and hearing aid technology companies, but this work is not directly related to outcome measures. He was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2023.