DESCRIPTION

The *Journal of Hand Therapy* is designed for hand therapists, occupational and physical therapists, and other hand specialists involved in the rehabilitation of disabling hand problems. The Journal functions as a source of education and information by publishing scientific and clinical articles. Regular features include original reports, clinical reviews, case studies, editorials, and book reviews.

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Manuscript categories for submission include: Clinical/Basic Research Studies, Case-Reports, Short Reports (Cross-cultural Translation, Literature Review (invited-only) Practice Forum and Letters to the Editor (published online only).

Inquiries for the Editor-in-Chief should be made to: Joy MacDermid, PT, PhD at editor.macdermid@gmail.com.

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Manuscript Categories
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The purpose of the research should be listed as: Descriptive, clinical measurement, epidemiology, etiology, natural history, prognosis, diagnosis, effectiveness, harm, economics or implementation. Where these do not apply, authors may propose another term. Further details on reporting the study design are listed below. Use of reporting guidelines for these studies are also described below.

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Practice Forum: This section presents novel or timely ideas of clinical relevance. However, topics that are not original should represent a unique application of an existing idea and should be referenced and limited to less than 750 words. The idea should be supported by current best science and this should be referenced in the beginning of the submission. The Journal of Hand Therapy has a clinical audience and we will be asking authors to pay greater attention to knowledge translation. Make sure the description of your techniques is sufficient that a clinician could replicate it, provide either appropriate photographs or preferably a video on techniques- to assist clinicians in implementation. If you are describing an exercise program or another intervention make sure you provide the dosage of the intervention also. If there is a vested interest or a conflict of interest between the author(s) and any products listed in the manuscript, such information must be disclosed in the initial submission to the Practice Forum editor. Authors will be restricted to one Practice Forum publication per year. Submit any Practice Forum inquiries and/or manuscripts directly to the Practice Forum editor: Kristin Valdes OTD, OT, CHT at kvaldesotdcht@gmail.com.

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- **Study Design**
- **Introduction**
- **Purpose of the Study**
- **Methods**
- **Results**
- **Discussion**
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Key words

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**Cross-sectional**: Study data are collected at a single time point.  
**N-of-1**: A single patient is enrolled at a relevant baseline and allocated to cross-over different intervention arms based on a random concealed process; outcomes are ascertained prospectively.  
**Case Series**: Data are collected on a single subgroup of patients (no comparison group). This can be cross-sectional or longitudinal.  
**Case Report**: Data are collected on a single subject.  
**Repeated Case Study**: a formal comparison of 2-5 cases, extending beyond summary data.  

Qualitative Study Designs  
**Meta-syntheses**: a synthesis of the better quality qualitative studies.  
**Grounded Theory**: research that seeks to understand and identify theoretical processes; themes used to develop an understanding and theoretical explanation.  
**Case Study**: an in-depth study of an individual lived experience and perspective.  
**Descriptive**: Studies that may use qualitative and quantitative method to describe a phenomenon- without intention to develop theory or meaning.  
**Ethnography**: the description of the customs of groups or cultures.  
**Interpretive Description**: inductive analytic studies designed to understand clinical phenomena with a view to applications.  

Mixed-Methods Designs include both quantitative and qualitative components that seek to address a common or complementary research questions. The components can be conducted concurrently or sequentially to expand, explain or triangulate findings of the other component. The author can explain the approaches using any of the design taxonomies described for mixed methods.

A summary of the questions and design is illustrated in the figure.

Basic science research. This includes mechanistic studies i.e. anatomy, biomechanics, electromyography, physiology. Where applicable the descriptors above may be used. At a minimum author must state whether data collection was observational or randomized and whether data was longitudinal: collected at multiple time points or cross-sectional: collected on a single occasion.

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Acknowledgements
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