The RFESIG Think Tank work group began as an idea over two years ago to assist residency and fellowship (R/F) programs in accessing quality resources to develop their program. After countless hours of collaborating with R/F programs, reviewing submissions, and organizing the compilation of resources, the work group is excited to announce that the Think Tank Compendium is now available to all APTA members. Thank you to all the individuals and programs who helped make this a possibility. Special thanks to Carol Jo Tichenor, Jason Zafereo, and John DeWitt for taking the reins in this initiative. Please see page 2 to learn how to access the materials. The RFESIG hopes you and your program enjoy the resources!

Sincerely,
Sara Kraft, Chair
RFESIG Think Tank Compendium

*Now Live*
All APTA members now have access to a collection of mentoring and education resources to enhance their residency and fellowship program.

- To access, click [here](#) OR
- Go to the APTE website at [www.aptaeducation.org](http://www.aptaeducation.org).
- Click on [Member Resources](#) at the top of the page.
- Then click on RFESIG Think Tank Compendium.

Have a resource that you would like to submit?
The RFESIG Think Tank is accepting submissions on an ongoing basis. You can submit a resource to the Think Tank through the website or by clicking [here](#).

Thank you!
Thank you to the great efforts of Sara Kraft, Carol Jo Tichenor, Jason Zafereo, John DeWitt and the members of the RFESIG Think Tank. The Think Tank Compendium would not exist without their time and hard work! The RFESIG would also like to thank the residency and fellowship programs who generously donated resources. These programs truly exemplify the RFESIG’s mission of collaborating across specialities to advance R/F education!

Please note- If you use a resource in the Think Tank Compendium in your own program, please cite the R/F program that developed that tool.
Featured R/F Research

Program-Level Factors Influencing Positive Graduate Outcomes of Physical Therapy Residency Programs

Gregory W. Hartley, PT, DPT; Kathryn E. Roach, PT, PhD; Kendra L. Harrington, PT, DPT, MS; Stephanie McNally, BA


**Background:** Physical therapist clinical residency programs vary widely in administrative structure, instructional characteristics, and program design. The impact of program-level factors on resident outcomes such as graduation and board certification is unknown.

**Objective:** The objective of this study was to examine the influence of program-level factors on participant outcomes of physical therapist residency programs.

**Design:** This was a retrospective cohort study using data from accredited programs from 2010 to 2013.

**Methods:** Data were collected on program characteristics such as administrative structure, size, salary, tuition, full- or part-time options, didactic format, and clinical-site structure. The odds ratios were calculated to examine the impact of program characteristics on graduation, board certification, and passing the exam. A logistic regression analysis to determine the combined contribution of these characteristics on the 3 outcomes was performed.

**Results:** Data from 183 residency programs and 1589 residents were analyzed. Participants attending programs that were single site or multifacility, provided live didactic instruction, did not charge tuition, and paid residents ≥70% full-time equivalent salary were 9.8 times more likely to graduate, 5.1 times more likely to become board certified, and 3.2 times more likely to pass the specialty board examination.

**Limitations:** This study did not examine the impact of program location, resident attributes, or resident exposure to patient diagnostic volume and variety.

**Conclusions:** This study has identified some program-level factors that appear to influence the odds of graduating, becoming board-certified, and passing the specialty board examination. This information could inform existing and developing residency programs, as well as applicants, on program-level factors that might influence participant outcomes.

Have you or a colleague published a study or presented a poster related to residency or fellowship education?

Email an abstract to
Yvonne Body
ybody@usa.edu

*Submissions are accepted on an ongoing basis*
March Madness

APTE Elections
Vote in the Academy of Physical Therapy Education election right now!

RFESIG Candidates
Vice Chair
Jason Zafereo, PT, PhD
Secretary
David Nolan, PT, DPT, MS
Nominating Committee
Cheri Hodges, PT, DPT

All APTE members can vote until April 1st (11:59 pm EST).
Click here to vote.

Conference Proposal Submissions
Interested in presenting at the Educational Leadership Conference (ELC) or Combined Sections Meeting (CSM)? Deadlines are approaching!

Educational Leadership Conference
Educational session and platform/poster presentation proposals will be accepted from March 15 to April 18, 2019.
Click here for more information.

Combined Sections Meeting
Educational session proposals will be accepted until March 20, 2019.
Click here for more information.
R/F SIG Corner

What’s happening in other Residency & Fellowship SIGs or groups?
The RFESIG will now be including announcements from other R/F groups here!

Orthopaedic Residency and Fellowship SIG (ORF-SIG)
Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy

The ORF-SIG is excited to share their new strategic initiative:

Vision: To be a community of excellence in orthopaedic residency and fellowship education.

Mission: Serve and support the orthopaedic residency and fellowship community.

Goals:
1. The process of residency and fellowship accreditation will be positively impacted through relationship building and advocacy.
2. Excellence in orthopaedic residency and fellowship education will be promoted.
3. Members of the ORF-SIG will be engaged and connected.

To become more involved in the ORF-SIG strategic initiatives, please visit the ORF-SIG page here and sign up as a member!

American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists (AAOMPT)

The American Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy is working to maintain our ability to assess the standards required by IFOMPT. We have a task force who is assessing the feasibility of this through our own committee or the potential need for using a different agency for this portion of the review. The problem we are facing is that in order for our Fellowship Programs to be recognized by AAOMPT they have to meet IFOMPT Standards. ABPTRFE is only partially reviewing these Standards and AAOMPT will be required to examine curriculum hour expectations for practical and didactic skills as well as the additional research and mentoring requirements by a fellow of AAOMPT. We will also need to develop processes for appeals similar to ABPTRFEs and determine the best way forward to evaluate our fellowships as it relates to IFOMPT standards.

As the RFESIG continues to collaborate with all R/F SIGs to advance residency and fellowship education, we encourage our members to learn about other R/F teams.

Click on each group for more information.

Please note for most groups, you must be a member of their Academy to join.

Task Force on Residencies and Fellowships // Academy of Acute Care Physical Therapy
Orthopaedic Residency and Fellowship SIG (ORF-SIG) // Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy
Geriatric Residency and Fellowship SIG // Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy
Sports Residency and Fellowship SIG // American Academy of Sports Physical Therapy
EMG/NCV Residency Program // American Academy of Clinical Electrodiagnosis
Member Resources

• **RFESIG website** - Learn more about our SIG [here](#).

• **Our Hub Community** - Join us [here](#).

In the APTE Residency/Fellowship Education SIG community, you can:

• Share research and resources

• Network with others

• Discuss R/F issues in our designated forums

• **Think Tank Compendium** - Click [here](#) to access resources to enhance your residency or fellowship program. *Now Live*

• **Please note:** If you incorporate a tool into your R/F program, please cite the program that developed the document.

• The RFESIG Think Tank is an ongoing effort and will continue to review resources for inclusion in the Compendium. If you would like to share a resource with the Think Tank, please click [here](#).

**Thank you to our members!**

The RFESIG continues to grow and now has 231 members.

**Everyone is welcome!**

Invite residency and fellowship graduates, faculty, and program directors across all specialty areas to join us.

Questions? Comments?

Contact Christina Gomez at cgomezpt@gmail.com

“"The greatest sign of success for a teacher...is to be able to say, 'The children are now working as if I did not exist.'”

-Maria Montessori