Report of the Regulatory Research Committee

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INPTRA believes that regulatory standards requirements and decisions should be based on the best available evidence. The Research Committee was established following the last INPTRA meeting. Original charge from INPTRA in 2013 to promote collaboration and pursue and curate research.

(INPTRA Model Regulatory Research Framework, 2019)
Professional Regulation

The manner in which the limits of a profession are defined for the purpose of protecting the public by:

- Setting standards of education
- Setting standards of practice
- Setting standards of conduct

(Benton, 2013)
Regulation occurs in all four income groups (Grant, 2008).

There is little collaboration between authors in different countries. (Benton, 2013)

INPTRA can be very valuable in encouraging international regulation connections (Shinkfield, 2015)
What is the status of regulatory research?

There is a paucity of regulatory research

Missing Topics:
- Benefits of licensure (Benton, 2018)
- Conduct
- Discipline
- Adverse actions
- Regulatory Board operations
- Continuing Competence
- Benefits of licensure and Regulation
- Impact of licensure on mobility

(Benton, 2018)
Developing a collaborative Initiative

The concept is to engage multiple investigators from multiple jurisdictions.

- Advantageous but very challenging
- Capacity strengthening needs to be more than simply transfer of knowledge, skills and resources

(Larkin, 2016)
The INPTRA Research Vision

To develop the global evidence base for physiotherapy regulation.

Encourage all jurisdictions to participate to the best of their ability.

Develop a research agenda that can be as simple as a data repository about their registrants or if the resources exist more extensive.
A regulatory framework should include:

1) Research agenda and priorities:
   - Which topics meet the evidence needs of the regulatory organization?

2) Research Principles
   - Principles that will guide the use of data and information to inform policy and decision making
   - Assurance of compliance with research principles and ethics.
Research Agenda and Priorities:

Broad Topic Areas that are important to assuring safe and competent physiotherapy within the context of health care delivery in the jurisdiction:

In developing the agenda consideration should be given to the jurisdictions regulatory requirements and the evidence that supports these requirements in benefitting the consumer of PT service.

Broad stakeholder input should be sought in developing the agenda.
Research Agenda

next steps

Once the agenda is established a mechanism for prioritizing the topic areas should be employed.

Stake holder input should be sought to prioritize the topic areas.

The prioritized agenda should be used to determine projects for a given timeframe.

The agenda should be reviewed at least annually and updated annually as needed.
Research Principles

- Definitions
- Scope
- Relevant legislation and Codes
- Purpose
- Research merit
Research Principles

- Research Integrity
- Justice, Beneficience, and Respect
- Ethics
- Privacy
- Risks and Benefits
Research Principles

- Conflict of Interest
- Governance
- Peer Review
- Data Security and Management
- Dissemination
Research Principles

- Publication and Reports
- Authorship
- Attribution
Developing Research Agendas

- United Kingdom
- Canada
- United States
- Australia
- IAMRA (Medicine)
Objectives for the strategic intent 2016-2020

- To commission/undertake research that supports better decisions, continuous improvement and the engagement of stakeholders.
- To build internal capacity to manage the delivery of research effectively.
- To engage effectively with employees, council members and stakeholders to disseminate the outcomes of research and identify themes and issues to be addressed through future research.
Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators

- Strategic Plan 2017
- Joint Research Agenda
Healthcare Research Regulatory Institute (HRRI)

- New subsidiary to focus on regulatory research
- Establishing regulatory research agenda
- Potential for future collaboration with
  - other professions regulatory bodies
  - other stakeholders
- Still getting it established – being slow and methodical
The research framework consists of:
- Research Priorities
- Research Principles

This supports best practice approaches to all research activities, including:
- Consent, peer review, publishing results and outcomes, assigning authorship, ensuring research data security and storage
- Collaborating with external partners
IAMRA

International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities

IAMRA Goal 5: Strengthening the evidence base for regulation by encouraging research and evaluation of regulatory processes, and the publication and sharing of findings.

Research and Education Working Group is charged with the creation of a web-based repository of relevant published research about medical regulation.
The following have been identified as topic areas that might be part of the INPTRA research agenda:

1. Identification of harms and risks related to the practice of physical therapy.

2. Evidence related to setting standards or guidelines for education, licensure and continuing professional development.
Research Topics

3. Evaluating the effectiveness of regulatory interventions.
4. Stakeholder satisfaction and engagement
5. Minimum requirements necessary for a regulator to determine when a clinician is safe to return to practice.
6. Risks associated with physiotherapists returning to practice after a period of inactivity.
7. Identification of supports that are available to physical therapists to ensure continued safe and effective practice

8. Workforce data to monitor a lack of physical therapists or an inappropriate distribution.

9. Measuring regulatory board effectiveness

10. Effectiveness of remediation tools and actions to prevent reoffending/recidivism.

Your Turn

Tell us what you think of the research topics?

Any that should be added?

Any that should be eliminated or put on the “back burner?”
1. Identification of harms and risks related to the practice of physical therapy.
2. Evidence related to setting standards or guidelines for education, licensure and continuing professional development
3. Evaluating the effectiveness of regulatory interventions.
4. Stakeholder satisfaction and engagement
5. Minimum requirements necessary for a regulator to determine when a clinician is safe to return to practice.
6. Risks associated with physiotherapists returning to practice after a period of inactivity.
7. Identification of supports that are available to physical therapists to ensure continued safe and effective practice.
8. Workforce data to monitor a lack of physical therapists or an inappropriate distribution.
9. Measuring regulatory board effectiveness
10. Effectiveness of remediation tools and actions to prevent reoffending/recidivism.
Please Share

- What is happening in your country?
- Do you have a research agenda?