

APPENDIX 1

QUESTIONNAIRE

Questions about yourself

1. How many years have you been in your current position as scientific editor, editor-in-chief, or equivalent?
Please choose **only one** of the following:
 - Less than 1 year
 - 1 year
 - 2 years
 - 3 years
 - 4 years
 - 5 years
 - More than 5 years
2. In the past, have you been a scientific editor, editor-in-chief, or equivalent for any other physical therapy journal?
Please choose **only one** of the following:
 - Yes
 - No
3. Please indicate your current level of education.
Please choose **only one** of the following:
 - Post-Doctorate
 - PhD
 - Master's
 - Bachelor's
 - Other (Please Specify)
4. Are you a trained physical therapist? (if you select "Yes," please click on "No Answer" for Question 5 below)
Please choose **only one** of the following:
 - Yes
 - No
5. If you answered no, please indicate your background area of expertise.
Please choose **only one** of the following:
 - No Answer
 - Medicine
 - Rehabilitation Sciences
 - Health Sciences
 - Other (Please Specify)

Questions 6–16 are intended for you to provide insight on the changes in TYPE and QUALITY of research in physical therapy journals.
6. During your tenure as scientific editor, editor-in-chief, or equivalent, has there been a change in the number of submissions of articles for publication in your journal?
Please choose **only one** of the following:
 - Increased
 - Stayed the same
 - Decreased
 - Unsure
7. Has there been a change in the number of studies published by your journal?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Increased
 - Stayed the same
 - Decreased
 - Unsure
8. Have the types of articles published in physical therapy journals changed in your tenure as scientific editor, editor-in-chief, or equivalent?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
 9. In your opinion, has the quality of studies published in physical therapy journals changed in your tenure as scientific editor, editor-in-chief, or equivalent?
Please choose **only one** of the following:
 - Improved
 - Stayed the same
 - Worsened
 - Unsure
 10. In your opinion, compared to other healthcare professions, the quality of physical therapy evidence is:
Please choose **only one** of the following:
 - Worse
 - Similar
 - Better
 - Unsure
 11. Do you believe that 'Impact Factor' is strongly correlated with the quality of literature published in physical therapy journals?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
 12. Do you believe that 'Impact Factor' for physical therapy journals affects readership?
Please choose **only one** of the following:
 - Improves readership
 - Does not affect readership
 - Worsens readership
 13. In your opinion, which study design has shown the greatest increase in publication in physical therapy journals during your tenure as scientific editor, editor-in-chief, or equivalent?
Please choose **only one** of the following:
 - Systematic reviews
 - Randomized controlled trials
 - Cohort studies
 - Case control studies
 - Case reports
 - Measurement studies
 - Narrative reviews
 - Other (Please Specify)
 14. Which study design has shown the greatest decrease in publication in physical therapy journals during your tenure as scientific editor, editor-in-chief, or equivalent?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Systematic reviews
- Randomized controlled trials
- Cohort studies
- Case control studies
- Case reports
- Measurement studies
- Narrative reviews
- Other (Please Specify)

15. In the past 5 years, have there been significant changes to editorial policies at your journal in the attempt to improve the quality of articles published?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

16. Using the following scale, rate each statement as a potential barrier to improving the quality of research published in physical therapy journals.

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

	Not a barrier	Minimal barrier	Moderate barrier	Maximal barrier
a) Physical therapy graduates are not sufficiently trained in research methods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) There are not enough physical therapists involved in research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) There is inadequate funding for physical therapy-related research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Physical therapy outcomes are often difficult to measure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Researchers may prefer to submit higher quality studies to non-physical therapy journals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Questions 17–22 are intended for you to provide insight regarding the FUNCTION of physical therapy journals.

17. Are physical therapy journals the best resource for physical therapists in applying the latest research to clinical practice? (If you select “Yes” or “Unsure,” please click on “No Answer” for Question 18 below)

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

18. If you answered no, which of the following journal categories would be?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- No Answer
- Rehabilitation Journals (e.g. Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation)
- Medical Journals (e.g. New England Journal of Medicine)
- Specialty Journals (e.g. American Journal of Sports Medicine)
- Other (Please Specify)

19. Do you believe physical therapy journals have a regular readership in addition to physical therapists? (if you select “No” or “Unsure,” please select “No Answer” in question 20 below)

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

20. If you said yes, then in your experience, which other group of professionals is most likely to access physical therapy journals?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- No Answer
- General practitioners (M.D.)
- Sports medicine doctors
- Nurses
- Occupational therapists
- Clinical researchers from another discipline
- Other (Please Specify)

21. Do you receive submissions for publication that target professions other than physical therapy? (if you select “No” or “Unsure,” please select “No Answer” in question 22 below)

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

22. If yes, what priority do you give these submissions versus those that primarily target physical therapy clinical practice or the profession of physical therapy?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- No Answer
- Lower
- Somewhat Lower
- The Same
- Somewhat Higher
- Higher

Questions 23–32 are intended for you to provide insight regarding FUTURE TRENDS of research found in physical therapy journals.

23. In your opinion, will we see a change in the number of physical therapy journals in the future? (if you select “Stay the same,” “Decrease” or “Unsure” please select “No Answer” in question 24 below)

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Increase
- Stay the same
- Decrease
- Unsure

24. If you answered “increase,” will more journals dilute the quality of evidence in physical therapy literature?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- No Answer
- Yes
- No
- Unsure

25. Rate how likely it is that we will see an increase in the number of submissions to physical therapy journals in the near future (2–5 years)?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Not likely at all
- Not likely
- Neutral
- Likely
- Very likely

26. Rate how likely or not we will see an increase in the following manuscript types in physical therapy journals in the near future (2–5 years).

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

	Not likely at all	Not likely	Neutral	Likely	Very likely
a) Systematic reviews	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Randomized controlled trials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Cohort studies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Case control studies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Case reports	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Measurement studies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Narrative Reviews	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

27. Rank the following types of articles from 1 to 5 (with 1 being most beneficial and 5 being least beneficial) according to which will benefit physical therapists the most in the future regarding clinical decision-making?

Please write your answer(s) here:

- Systematic reviews _____
- Randomized controlled trials _____
- Observational studies _____
- Measurement studies _____
- Narrative reviews _____

28. How likely is it that physical therapy publications will become completely paperless?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Not likely at all
- Not likely
- Neutral
- Likely
- Very likely

29. Is it feasible for your journal to have open and free access?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

30. How beneficial would open and free access to physical therapy journals be for practising physical therapists?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Very beneficial
- Beneficial
- Somewhat beneficial
- Not beneficial

31. How beneficial would open and free access to physical therapy journals be for physical therapy researchers?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Very beneficial
- Beneficial
- Somewhat beneficial
- Not beneficial

32. How beneficial would open and free access to physical therapy journals be for other health care professionals?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Very beneficial
- Beneficial
- Somewhat beneficial
- Not beneficial

33. Please list any comments you might have regarding the evaluation of type and quality of research in physical therapy journals, the function of physical therapy journals, or future trends in publishing.

Please write your answer here: