



**Pediatric Rehabilitation Medical Device Survey
SUNY Upstate Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation**

Faculty members of the SUNY Upstate Medical University (UMU) Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (PM&R) are working with the Brookings Institution to develop a topic about rehabilitation-related pediatric medical devices within a National Forum on Innovation in Medical Devices, planned for the late spring or early summer 2013. A careful review of the literature reveals that a needs assessment has not been conducted by PM&R to determine what devices should be developed in order to better focus research and technology for pediatric patients with disabilities and improve PM&R's pediatric medical practice. A brief professional survey of pediatric orthopedists was published in 2005, and supported the Pediatric Medical Devices Safety and Improvement Act of 2007, which has resulted in more attention to pediatric-sized general medical care devices

(<http://www.aaos.org/govern/public/fda/FinalPediatricDeviceDevelopmentReport2005.pdf>; <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/110/hr1494>).

Therefore, as a first step in addressing the challenges in research and development of medical devices, a brief 7-item needs assessment has been developed, modeled after the orthopedic survey. Pediatric PM&R providers will be surveyed for opinions about the need for pediatric and orphan devices utilized for children with physical disabilities, especially those that address the following: (a) adapt to the child's changing physical stature, (b) promote health and increased physical activity, (c) reduce pain, (d) monitor clinical signs, (e) monitor physical activity, and (f) require minimal maintenance for use in home and in rural settings. This survey project has been reviewed by the SUNY UMU IRB, and has received an exempt status.

Our professional societies, the Association of Academic Physiatrists (AAP) and the American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (AAPM&R), have agreed to assist with announcement and promotion of this survey. Both organizations will assure a broad representation of respondents, with AAPM&R allowing focus through the Pediatric

Rehabilitation and Developmental Disabilities Council. AAP will provide the support for data collection through a SurveyMonkey platform. SurveyMonkey allows an anonymous web based survey and follows IRB guidelines. Although no consent will be required with IRB exemption, a consent or agreement screen with directions will be in place.

All data will be encrypted between respondent and survey engine. The anonymous and collated data will be sent electronically to the PI, Dr. Margaret A. Turk. The data will be analyzed to include measures of central tendency, correlational relationships and multiple correlations, reported as grouped data without any connection to the individual respondent. This process and data analyses will be reported at the National Forum on Innovation in Medical Devices.