

Recognition

JPRM would like to recognize both Dr. Marcie Ward for receiving the Gabriella Molnar-Swofford Pediatric PM&R Research Grant and Dr. Krach for receiving the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (AAPM&R) Distinguished Clinician Award at the 2012 AAPM&R meeting.



Dr. Marcie Ward received her medical degree from the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Chicago. She completed an internship in family medicine – with a pediatric concentration – at Broadlawns Medical Center in Des Moines, Iowa, and a physical medicine and rehabilitation residency at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, North Carolina. She also finished a fellowship in pediatric rehabilitation at The Children’s Hospital in Denver, Colorado. She is a member of the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, the American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine, and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Her research study intends to assess the reliability of aerobic and anaerobic fitness testing in participants with cerebral palsy. The importance of this study lies in the fact that fitness is a vaguely defined parameter. An important aspect of fitness is assessed by testing aerobic capacity and anaerobic capacity. Assessing aerobic and anaerobic capacity in people with gross motor im-

pairment has encountered several challenges. Specifically, the traditional methods of assessing these parameters has not been thoroughly evaluated for reliability in people with CP. The Cerebral Palsy International Research Foundation (CPIRF) has echoed this sentiment, calling for research to be conducted on the cardiovascular benefits of exercise in cerebral palsy. In fact, among their listed research priorities CPIRF states, “*There is a need for studying methods to keep adults with CP ambulatory and improve cardiovascular fitness.*” And in August of 2009, Deborah Thorpe wrote for the CPIRF in this regard and included in her statement: “*Specific physiologic parameters need to be identified that will provide the most reliable and valid information in order to discern fitness need and change.*”

There is, therefore, a pressing need to prove the reliability of the methods used to study aerobic and anaerobic fitness in this patient population. Once reliability of testing is established in children with CP, the effects of exercise prescription can be explored for this group and the benefits of interventions can be quantified and improved upon.



Dr. Krach graduated from Hahnemann Medical College (now Drexel University College of Medicine) in Philadelphia in 1977, and completed her residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the Univer-

sity of Minnesota, where she was chief resident 1979–1980. She is subspecialty certified in Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine.

Since 1981, Dr. Krach has been a member of the attending medical staff at Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare. She served as Chief of Staff at Gillette Children's. She is also on staff at the University of Minnesota Medical Center-Fairview. In the past she served as the Medical Director of Rehabilitation and Co-Director of the Brain Injury Service at Gillette Children's and is now Medical Director of Research Administration at Gillette.

Dr. Krach holds an academic appointment at the University of Minnesota Medical School where she is an associate professor and residency program director in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. She is also a member of the University of Minnesota Center for Orphan Drug Research.

Dr. Krach's clinical and research emphasis has been in acquired brain injury in children as well as the management of spasticity in children.

Dr. Krach has been active in many professional and community organizations, including Goodwill/Easter Seals of Minnesota Board of Directors, Gillette Chil-

dren's Foundation Board of Directors, and the National Easter Seals Board of Directors. She has been the recipient of several awards including the President's Citation for an outstanding paper at the 62nd Annual Assembly of the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in 2000, named the Sidney Licht Lecturer by the University of Minnesota in 2004, American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine Annual Meeting Best Paper Award in 2005, named a Bush Foundation Medical Fellow in 2006, 2010 American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Outstanding Council Service Award, Pediatric Rehabilitation/Developmental Disabilities Council, and 2012 American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Distinguished Clinician Award.

The Distinguished Clinician Award is presented by AAPM&R to honor individual physiatrists who have achieved distinction on the basis of their scholarly level of teaching and their outstanding performance in patient care activities. An AAPM&R Distinguished Clinician has demonstrated excellence in scholarly teaching and physiatric patient care and has contributed significantly to the advancement of the specialty through participation in Academy activities.¹

¹“AAPM&R Award Descriptions.” *AAPM&R Award Descriptions*. Web. 27 Feb. 2013.