Osteopathic Research: US Perspective
OIA London Conference (2014)

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• To provide specific examples of AOA sponsored research.
• To share AOA’s research strategy for the future.
Peer reviewed, original research performed by research investigators within the osteopathic community
Published Research by Specialty

(2000-2012)
AOA Supported Research
Funding by Research Area

- Pediatric Disorders
- Neurological/Psychiatric Disorders
- Respiratory Disorders
- Miscellaneous Medical Disorders
- Health Services Research
- Medical Education
- OMT Mechanisms (Basic & Clinical)
- Musculoskeletal Disorders

Percentage of Total Grants
• 63% of funding is clinical (tissue or human subjects).
• 55% of funding awarded to individuals with a PhD degree.
AOA Research Funding (1989-2013)

2002-05 no funding was available
Osteopathic Heritage Foundation

- Endowed Chairs @ 7 Universities –
- Investment level - $12M total
- Sustained areas of research
  - Genetics
  - Palpatory diagnostics and therapeutics
  - Aging
  - Diabetes
  - Heart Disease
  - Alzheimer’s Disease
  - Neuromuscular disorders
Lessons Learned

• Good ideas
• Mediocre or inconsistent results
• Interdisciplinary research teams
• Sustained areas of research
• Sustained funding
• Sustained meaningful mentorship of young, passionate clinicians
• Realistic funding
AOA Strategic Plan: Future Research

2025 Rooftop Goals

- 100% increase in awareness of osteopathic medicine
- 50% increase in engagement with DOs
- 100% increase in international awareness of DOs

2014-2016 Priority Areas

- Governance
- Education
- Research
- Advocacy
- Teamwork
- Family

- Expense Control & Revenue Enhancement
- Increase Osteopathic Medical Research Impact
- Expand OSGME and Enhance Quality
- Enhance Public Policy Impact
- Brand Visibility Campaign
- Establish three year Strategic Focus for AOA research enhancement initiative.

- Leverage collaborative opportunities with domestic and international osteopathic research initiatives.

- Expand internal research capacity in the profession, through collaboration and integration.
Develop four new research partnerships

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- Increase the number of published articles by 20%
- Expand internal research on profession
- Increase research funding sources and capacity by 50%
ASSESS CURRENT OM RESEARCH AND IDENTIFY FOCUS AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY

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- Identify 3-5 pro-active “focus areas” for research studies.
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Support existing AOA grant programs and research studies.
ENHANCE AND LEVERAGE FUNDING TO INCREASE RESEARCH OUTCOMES

Identify external funding sources (e.g., corporate/pharma, associations, foundations) interested in collaborating on the research focus areas.

Support existing AOA grant programs and research studies.

Leverage existing and develop additional datasets to encourage research questions and publications on OM.
ENHANCE EDUCATION TO BUILD CAPACITY FOR SCHOLARLY WORK

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Develop a "Research Ambassador" system for CME activities/speakers on various CME meetings, webinars, and appointments.
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Work with AACOM and the AOA Departments of Communication and Membership to develop plans to promote research to the osteopathic profession and the general public.
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Enhance existing collaborations with the JAOA, and osteopathic foundations to increase visibility of research findings.
Convene External Research Task Force (September/October/November 2014)

Task Force and key stakeholders convene to identify research priorities (January 2015)

Task Force presents recommendations and strategies to AOA Board (February 2015)

AOA implement research strategy (May 2015)
Join Us…

As the AOA reinvigorates its research strategy!

To explore collaborative opportunities with the AOA, contact:

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• No conflicts of interest.
Examples of AOA Funded Research

- **Lisa H. Hodge, PhD**
  University of North Texas Health Science Center Osteopathic Research Center
  *Project Title: Lymphatic Pump Treatment on the Clearance of Influenza and Influenza Complicated by Bacterial Pneumonia*

- **Paul R. Standley, PhD**
  University of Arizona, College of Medicine-Phoenix in partnership with Arizona State University
  *Project Title: In Vitro Myofascial Release and Wound Healing*

- **Richard C. Hallgren, MS, PhD**
  Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine
  *Project Title: Use of EMG Data to Investigate the Functional Role of Rectus Capitis Posterior Minor Muscles*