

# Osteopathic Research: US Perspective

OIA London Conference (2014)

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## OBJECTIVE

- To discuss types of osteopathic research being conducted in the US.





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- To provide specific examples of AOA sponsored research.
- To share AOA's research strategy for the future.



# OM Research (US): 75 Years



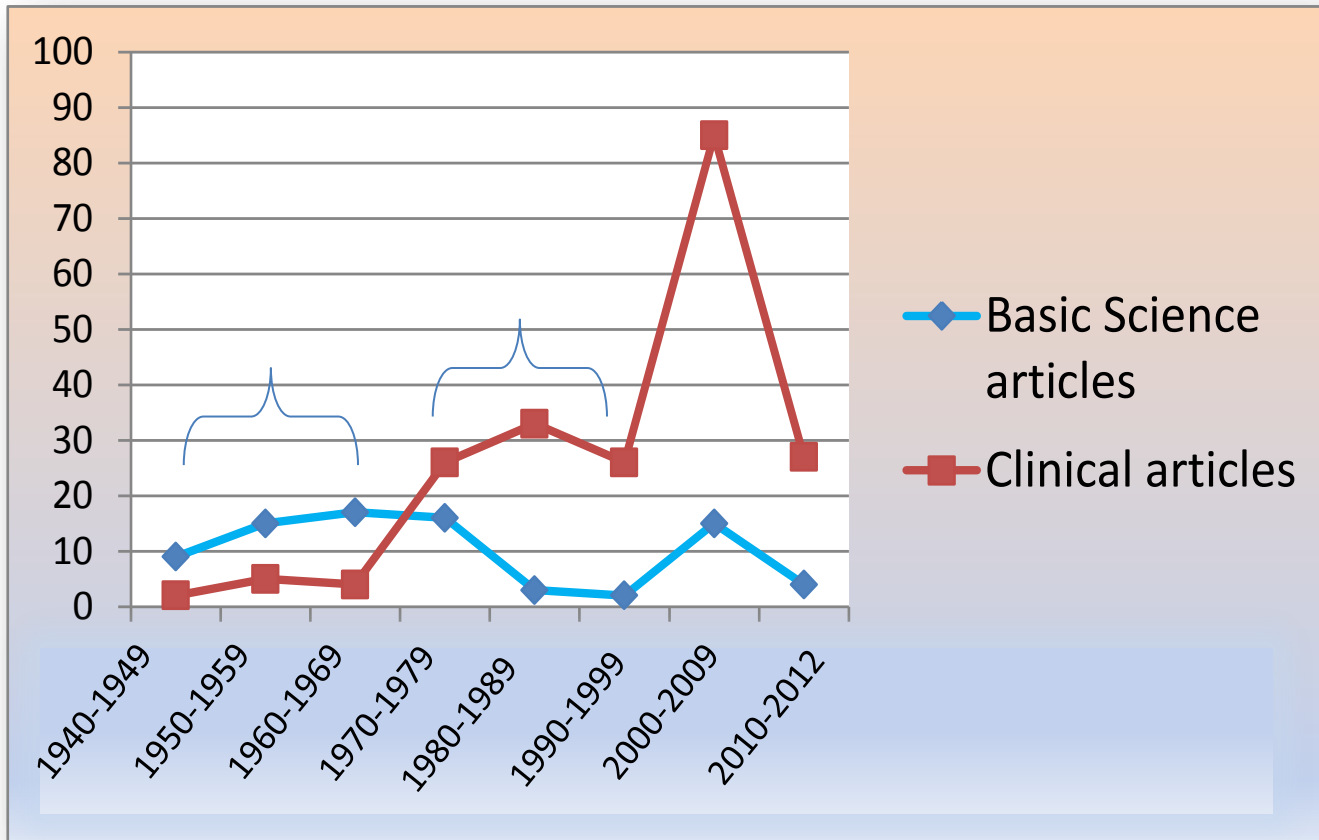
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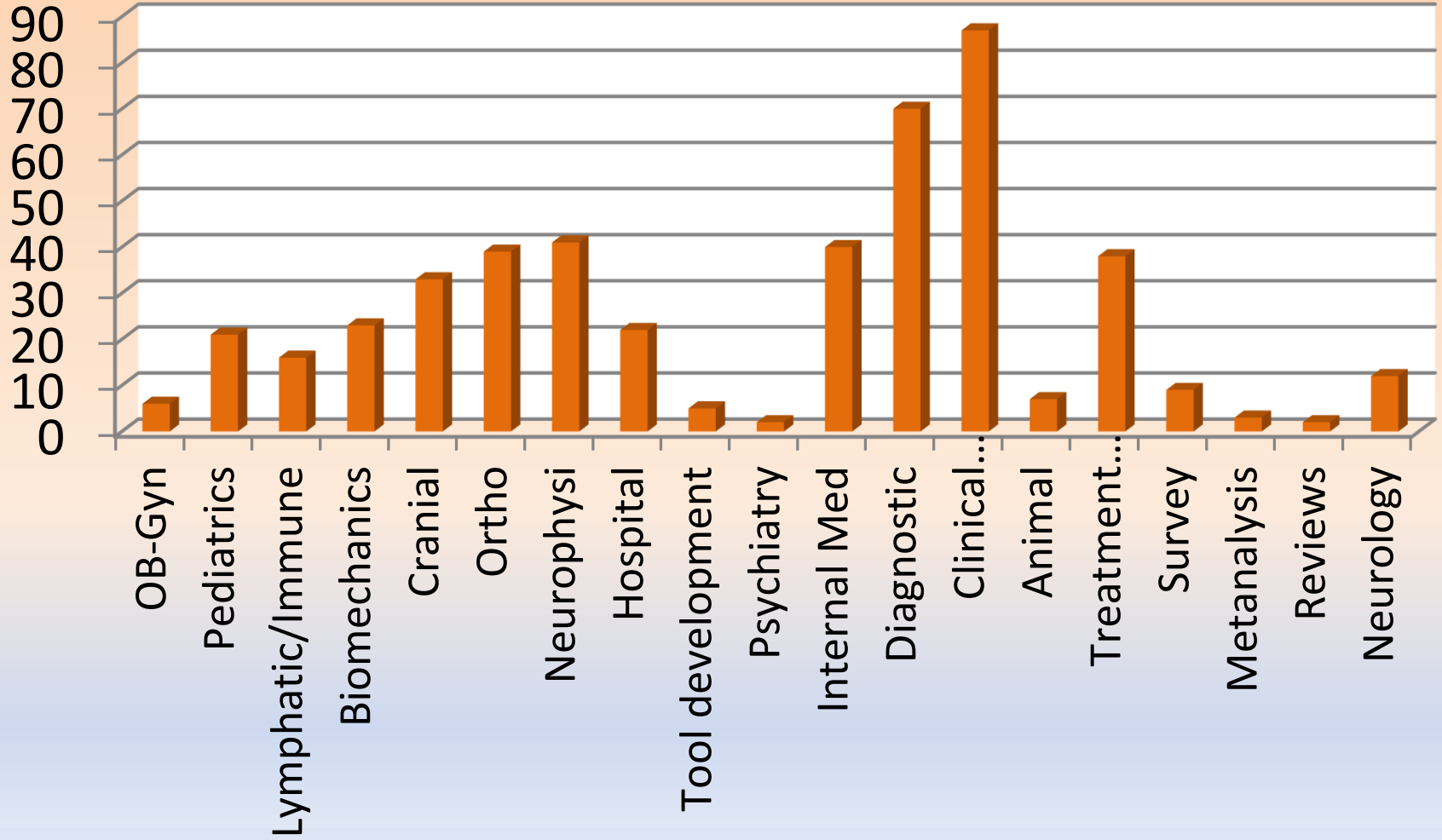
## Categories: Basic v. Clinical Research

Peer reviewed, original research performed by research investigators within the osteopathic community





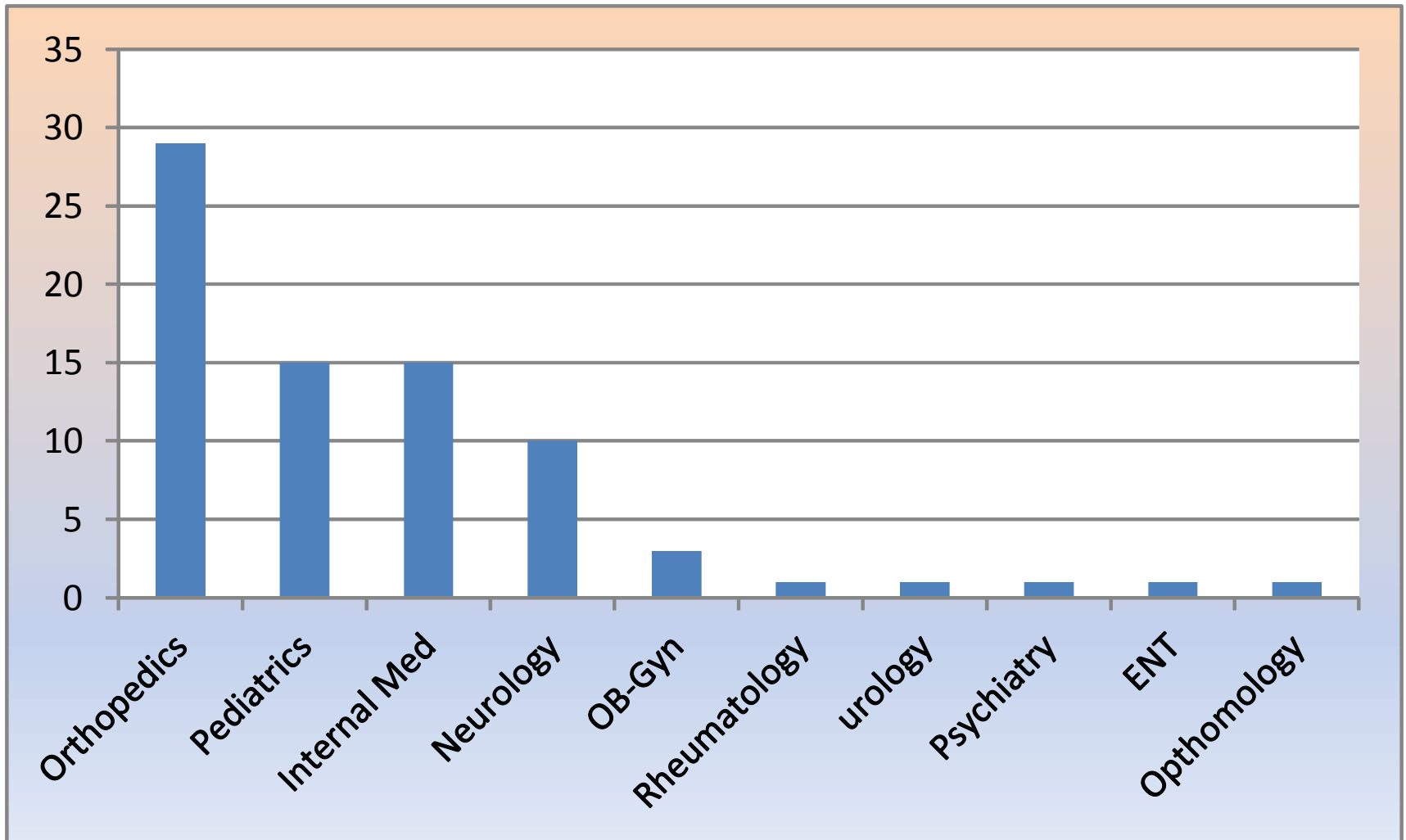
# Areas of Research





# Published Research by Specialty

(2000-2012)





# AOA Supported Research

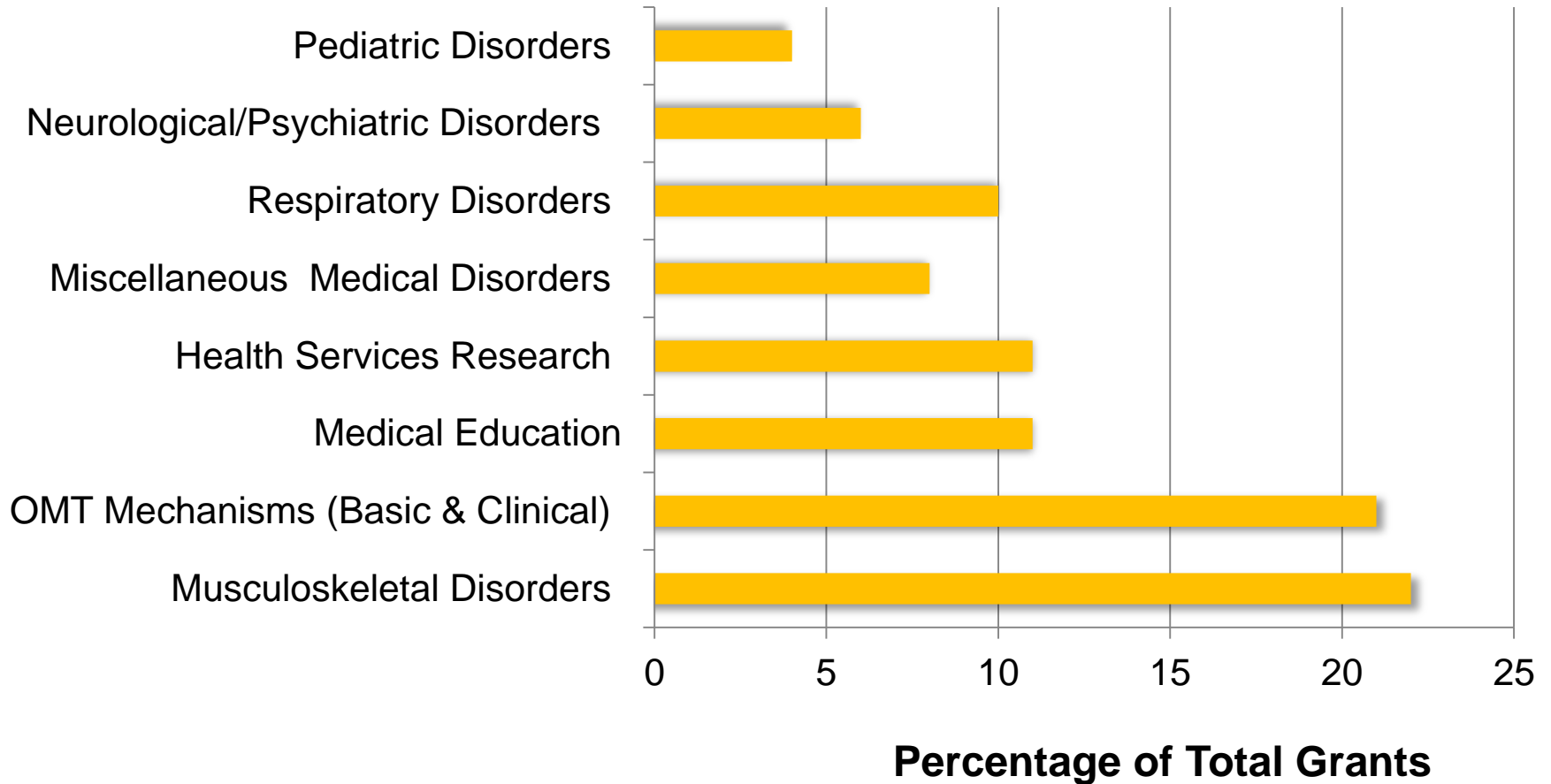


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# Funding by Research Area

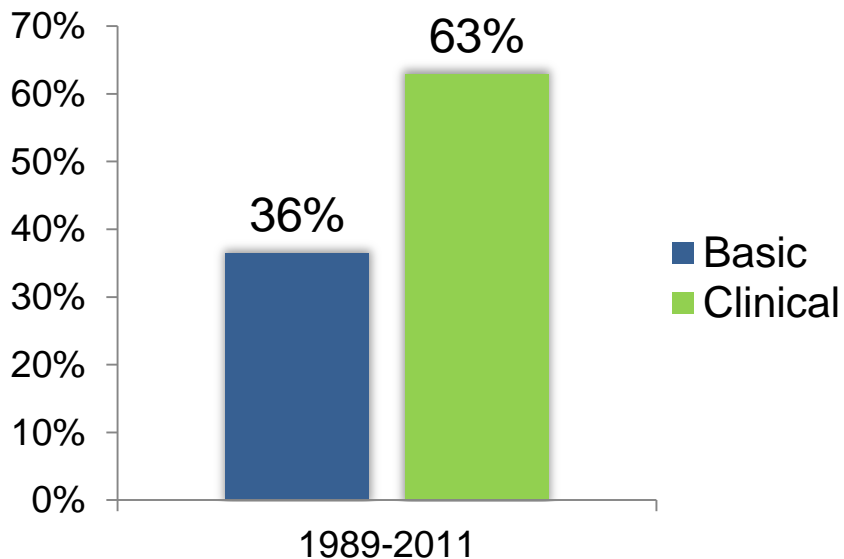




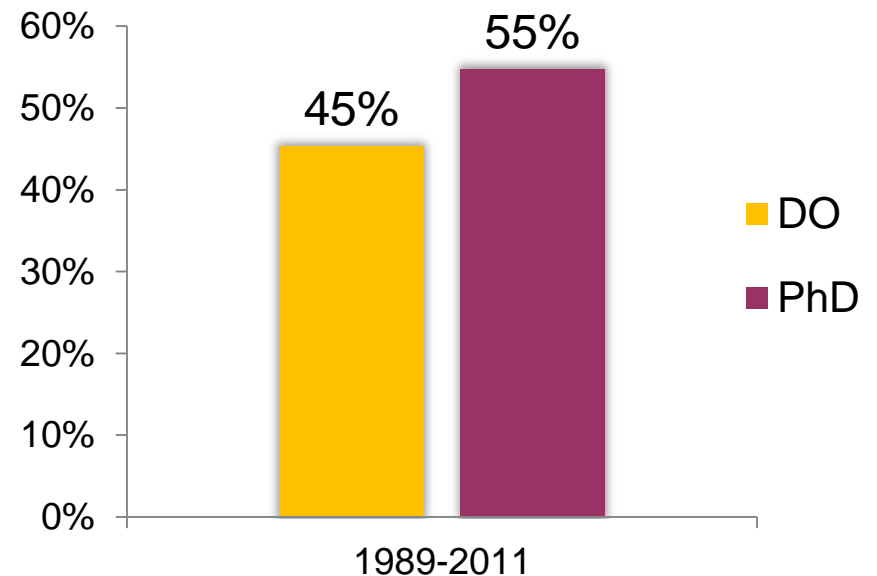
# AOA Research Funding

- 63% of funding is clinical (tissue or human subjects).
- 55% of funding awarded to individuals with a PhD degree.

### Research Category (N=159)

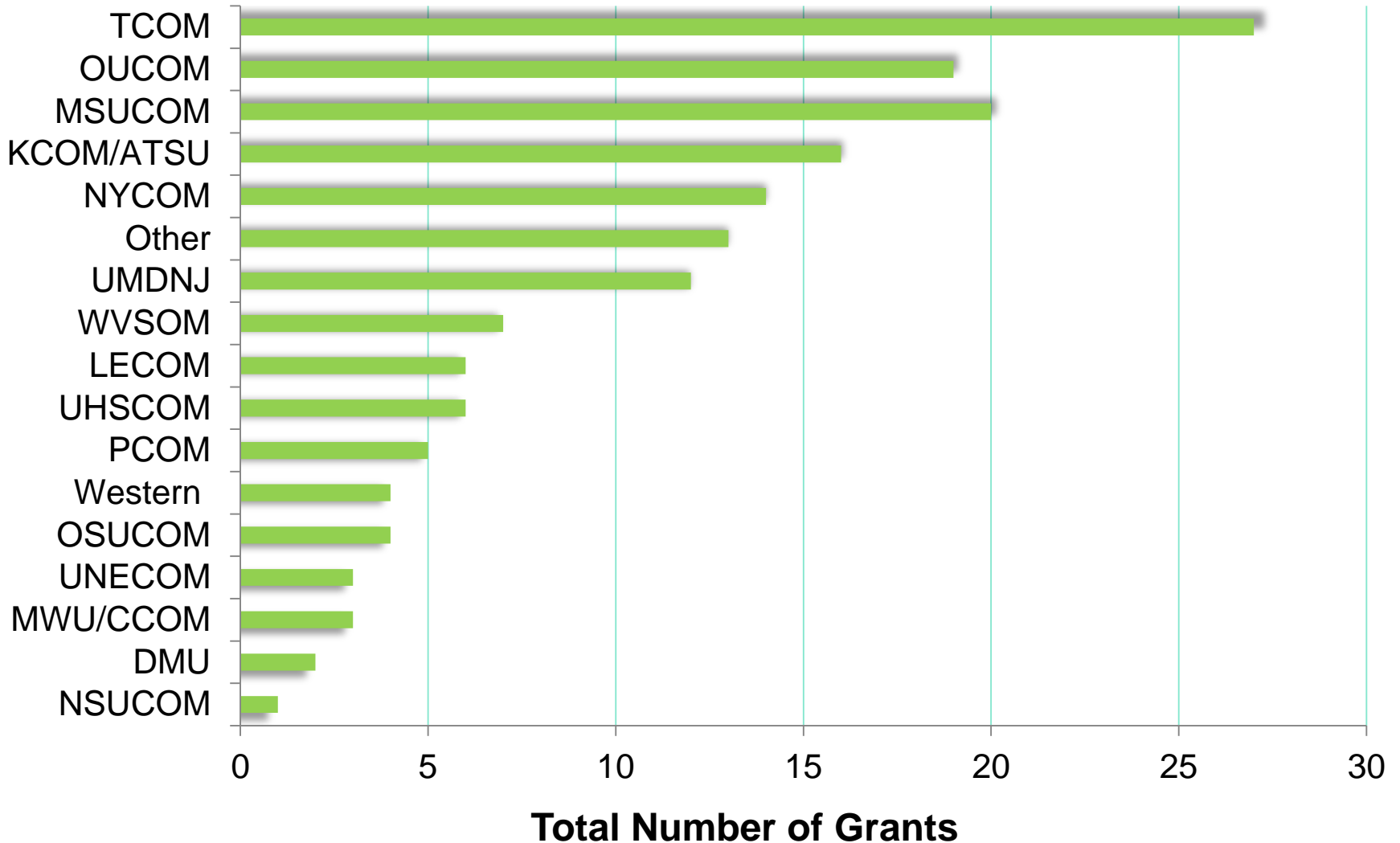


### Principal Investigator's Degree



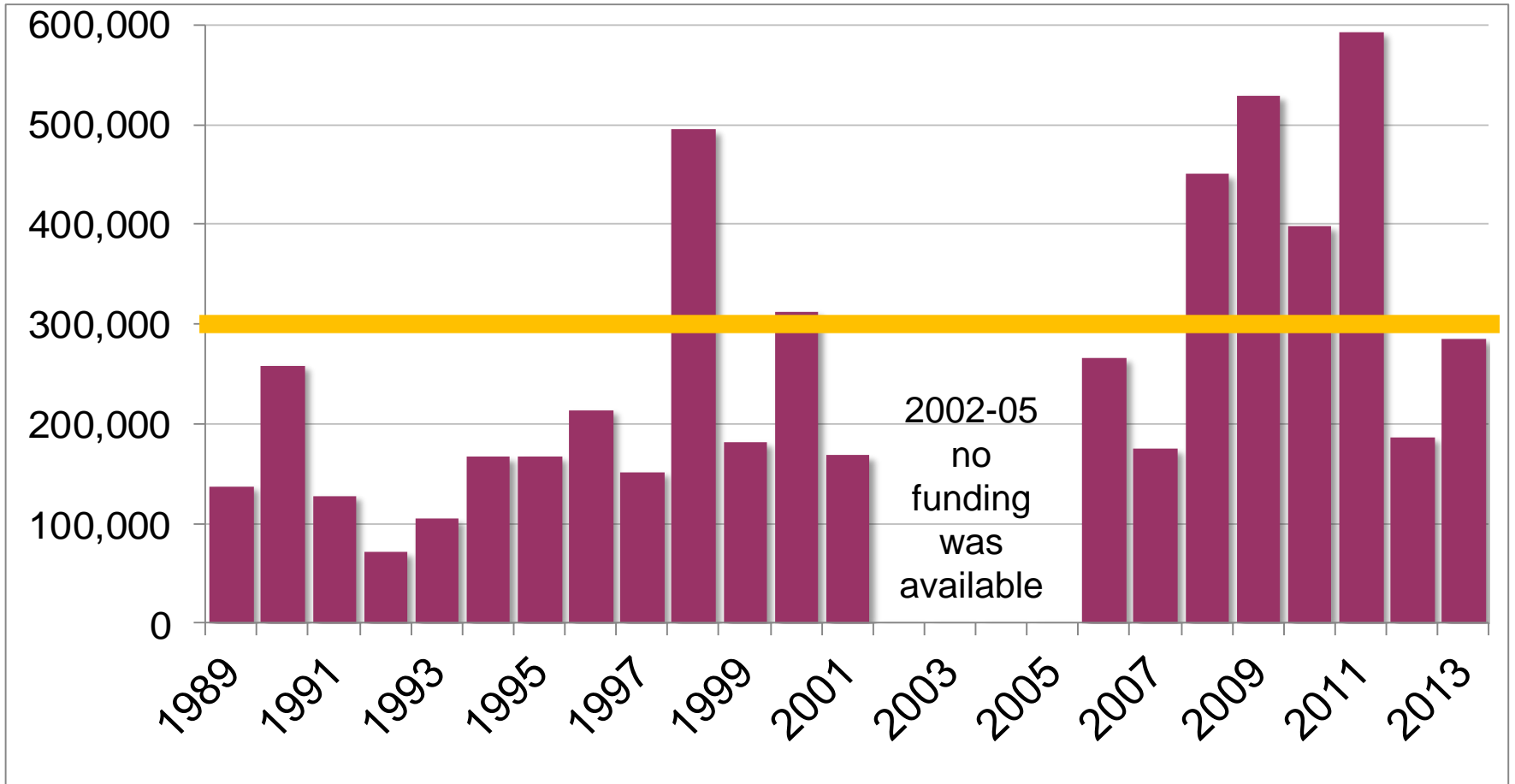


# Funding by Institution (1989-2013)





# AOA Research Funding (1989-2013)





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# 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





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# Research: 2016 Goal



- 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.



## Achieve within 3 years (2014-2016)

Develop four new research partnerships



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Develop four new research partnerships

Increase the number of published articles by 20%

Expand internal research on profession

Increase research funding sources and capacity by 50%



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# Research: Strategy #1

## ASSESS CURRENT OM RESEARCH AND IDENTIFY FOCUS AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY

Develop a data clearinghouse of past and current OM research, including student and resident research.





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Develop and expand “internal” profession reports, including surveys of osteopathic physicians, to build research capacity on OM.







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Identify 3-5 pro-active “focus areas” for research studies.





## Research: Strategy #2

### 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.





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Support existing AOA grant programs and research studies.





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Support existing AOA grant programs and research studies.

Leverage existing and develop additional datasets to encourage research questions and publications on OM.





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# Research: Strategy #3

## ENHANCE EDUCATION TO BUILD CAPACITY FOR SCHOLARLY WORK

Develop educational resources for COMs to increase publication of research (writing manuscripts, grants, etc.).





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Prepare Directors of Medical Education for single accreditation by increasing their research output.





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## Research: Strategy #3

### ENHANCE EDUCATION TO BUILD CAPACITY FOR SCHOLARLY WORK

Develop educational resources for COME to increase publication of research (writing manuscripts, grants, etc.)

Prepare Directors of Medical Education for single accreditation process and their research output.

Develop "ambassador" system for CME activities/speakers on various CME meetings, webinars and appointments.



**Institutional Mentorship**



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# Research: Strategy #4

## ENHANCE OM RESEARCH VISIBILITY

Utilize the JAOA, the AOA annual convention (OMED), and both osteopathic and non-osteopathic channels to promote research, by and about Osteopathic Medicine.







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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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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.

Enhance existing collaborations with the JAOA, and osteopathic foundations to increase visibility of research findings.



# Process...

- 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)





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## **Join Us...**

**As the AOA reinvigorates its research strategy!**

**To explore collaborative opportunities with the  
AOA, contact:**

**Andy Nordstrom**

**(800) 621-1773, ext. 8130**

**[anordstrom@osteopathic.org](mailto:anordstrom@osteopathic.org)**





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## Disclosures

- 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*