

Clin AT – The Year in Review, 2021: An Outlet for the Clinician

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A Look Back

Clinical Practice in Athletic Training had a monumental year as we continue to evolve and grow as a journal. In total, *Clin AT* had 25 articles published across the three issues throughout the year. In 2021, we saw our first [Special Issue](#) published that elevates the voices of athletic trainers and patients who represent historically marginalized and minoritized populations in their role in healthcare and scholarship contributions. There was a total of seven articles published in this issue including disablement model case studies, evidence-to-practice reviews, and clinical outcomes research resulting in nearly 1,500 downloads since publication. We look forward to continuing special issue opportunities and will be announcing our next topic soon.

Last year also saw both continued and growing partnerships with other organizations. We continued our partnership with the Athletic Trainers in Physician Practice Society (ATPPS) to publish the abstracts from their annual conference which included four abstracts this year, which can be found [here](#). Furthermore, *Clin AT* is thrilled to announce a new partnership with the Southwest Athletic Trainers' Association (SWATA) from NATA District 6 to publish their annual conference free communication professional track abstracts. As a result of this partnership, we published [10 abstracts from the 2021 SWATA](#) conference. We are excited for the future of these partnerships and continued development of sharing the work that athletic trainers are doing.

Lastly, we would like to thank the members of the editorial staff that have concluded their service to the journal. We want to thank Kim Barber Foss for her oversight as the section editor for the *Point-of-Care Research* section. Additionally, we want to recognize Ellie Rippey for her expertise and role as Copyeditor for the past two years. I want to personally thank them both for their time, dedication, and service to the journal. Without the contributions of the editorial staff, we would not be able to deliver the high-quality product that we do. We would like to also recognize our outstanding reviewers of the year for their dedication and quality of reviews provided in the last year: Dr. Kelly Brock, Dr. Kim Keely, Dr. Alicia Lacy, Dr. Nathan Newman, and Kacey Ohlemeyer.

Journal Advancements

Over the last year, the editorial staff has been working on advancements to elevate the process, timeliness, and quality of the journal. We have created a new section and manuscript style to the journal: *Translational Research*. With the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic and consequence of athletic training scholarship outlets closing, we want to offer authors an avenue to continue to share clinically relevant projects. Though this section is open to more traditional research designs, the focus should be clinically

applicable topics that are meaningful to clinicians and have impact for everyday clinical practice. You can find the full description of this section [here](#). We want to emphasize our commitment to be a journal that focuses on practice-based research and clinician friendly resources to improve clinical practice.

Additionally, we have made major revisions to our *Preceptor Case Study* section to expand the opportunity for authors, clinicians, mentors and teachers to share the meaningful work they are doing. The newly minted *Clinical Mentorship Case Studies* section encompasses papers that span a variety of topics such as clinical immersion from the preceptor perspective, designing quality patient interactions, and assessment of student growth during the clinical experience. You can find the full description of this new section [here](#).

Among our newest changes, we are working on changes to our submission process that are specifically targeted at improving the submission, review, and production procedures. As a journal that is sustained by only volunteers and do not charge article processing fees, these changes will help the editorial staff better serve the authors, reviewers, and readers. Starting Fall 2022, all authors who are submitting a new paper to the journal will be asked to use the corresponding template to the specific section. The template for each manuscript type can be located within the author guidelines for each of the different sections. Further, in an attempt to align with recommendations from the Strategic Alliance Research Agenda Task Force, authors will be asked to designate one of the five Research Agenda Priorities.¹ The research priorities are: Health Care Competency, Vitality of The Profession, Health Professions Education, Health Care Economics, and Health Information Technology.

We continue to evolve as a journal, and we are happy to introduce new editorial team members. We want to welcome Dr. Ashley Marshall (*Point-of-Care Research*), J'nai Pittman (*Clinical Mentorship Case Studies*), and Dr. Kelsey Picha (*Translational Research*) as section editors. Dr. Justin Young has also joined the Editorial team as a Staff Editor. We are honored that each of these individuals have accepted the invitation to join the editorial team and offer their time, expertise, and knowledge to the journal.

Finally, and most importantly we would like to recognize the reviewers and readers of *Clinical Practice in Athletic Training*. Without the invaluable contributions and service to the journal that our reviewers provide throughout the year, none of the other accomplishments would be possible. Particularly in a time where time seems to be scarce and athletic trainers are commonly asked to do more with less, we are immensely grateful. To our readers, we are thankful that you continue to turn to *Clinical Practice in Athletic Training* as one of the sources of information to advance and better the quality of care and education that you are providing to your patients, students, and stakeholders.

References

1. Eberman LE, Walker SE, Floyd RT, et al. The Prioritized Research Agenda for the Athletic Training Profession: A Report from the Strategic Alliance Research Agenda Task Force. *J Athl Train*. 2019;54(3):237-244. <https://doi.org/10.4085/1062-6050-374-18>.