

THE NRH-ICOR JOINTS STUDY TEAM

About NRH Research

The National Rehabilitation Hospital (NRH) is a private, not-for-profit facility with 128 licensed beds located in Northwest Washington, DC. NRH's rehabilitation services are designed to meet the needs of individuals with disabling injuries and impairments such as stroke, head and spinal cord injuries, arthritis, amputations, joint replacements, post-polio syndrome, multiple sclerosis, chronic pain, back and neck pain, occupational injuries, cardiac disease, and other neurological and orthopedic conditions. NRH is listed in *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the nation's top 15 hospitals for medical rehabilitation.

NRH's Research Division consists of several centers of research excellence that span biomechanics, robotics, neuroscience, stroke research, spinal cord injury research, assistive technology, and health services research related to health care for individuals with disabilities including post-acute care. NRH's research program is designed to enhance human performance, promote independence, maintain health, and lead in the creation of evidence-based rehabilitation practice and health policy. Established in 1986, the NRH Research Division is largely funded with grants from NIH, NIDRR, DOD, AHRQ, CDC, foundations, state government, and private sources. The NRH Research Division has close ties with Georgetown University, particularly the Departments of Rehabilitation Medicine and Neurology. Senior NRH researchers have their academic appointments at Georgetown University School of Medicine.

The JOINTS Study's principal investigator and lead investigator for the NRH portion of the NRH-ICOR team is **Gerben DeJong, PhD**, a senior fellow and a clinical and health services researcher with more than 30 years of experience addressing a broad spectrum of clinical and health services research issues. He is the author and co-author of more than 200 papers.

About ICOR Research

The Institute for Clinical Outcomes Research (ICOR) is a division of International Severity Information Systems (ISIS) located in Salt Lake City, UT and Annapolis, MD. ICOR has completed over 20 large practice-based evidence (PBE) studies during the past 10 years and has more than 25 years experience in developing severity-of-illness instruments. ICOR has conducted studies on IRF stroke rehabilitation (N = 1,400), long-term care pressure ulcers (N = 2,490), CABG surgery (N = 2,300), pediatric asthma and bronchiolitis (N = 2,000), caesarean section (N = 1,800 deliveries), hospice care (N = 1,800), ICU care (N=16,000), pediatric severity-of-illness (N = 18,000), managed care outcomes (N = 13,000). These studies were funded by government agencies, foundations, health care organizations, and pharmaceutical groups. In all of these projects, ICOR has conducted these studies by partnering with other researchers and health care organizations. ICOR staff has skills in nursing, medicine, study design, data collection software design, medical informatics, data processing, statistics, analysis, and project administration.

The lead investigator for the ICOR portion of the NRH-ICOR team is **Susan D. Horn, PhD**, a senior scientist and statistician with more than 35 years of experience in biostatistics and health services research. Dr. Horn is particularly well known for her seminal work in severity-of-illness measurement and has over 150 scientific papers to her name.

About the NRH-ICOR Team Culture

The NRH-ICOR Team thrives on a high level of openness and transparency designed to encourage confidence and trust among collaborators, participating facilities, and study stakeholders. The team relies heavily on the expertise of front-line clinicians to guide the selection of study variables, the design of data collection tools, and in the analyses of data. The team's transdisciplinary modus operandi fosters participant and stakeholder buy-in of study findings and recommendations.