

CPA SILVER QUILL AWARD

PURPOSE

To honour excellence in scientific writing published in *Physiotherapy Canada*, the official journal of the Canadian Physiotherapy Association.

HISTORY

The Silver Quill Award was established in 1981 as a means of providing public and professional recognition to physiotherapists who author the journal's most outstanding original article related to the field of rehabilitation. In 1988 a second award was introduced, the Award of Excellence: Clinical Report, to recognize high standards of writing in clinical reports and research manuscripts and to encourage the contribution of clinical articles related to treatment efficacy or effectiveness.

In 1992, a third award was introduced, and the publication award categories were revised to recognize excellence in three areas. These awards were known as:

- Silver Quill Award: Basic and Applied Research.
- Silver Quill Award: Clinical Research.
- Silver Quill Award: Clinical Studies.

In 2004, based on the newly revised Instructions for Authors published in the journal in 2003, the three aforementioned categories were replaced by three new categories:

- Silver Quill Award: Quantitative or Qualitative Research.
- Silver Quill Award: Knowledge Translation.
- Silver Quill Award: Student Research.

AWARDS

Each award consists of:

1. A cheque for \$1,000 to be shared, as determined by the principal author, among all authors.
2. An award certificate for the principal author and each co-author.

GENERAL CRITERIA

Articles must be published in one of the issues of the specified volume of *Physiotherapy Canada* to qualify for each annual award.

Silver Quill Award: Quantitative or Qualitative Research.

Articles in this category provide systematic analysis of original data that were either quantitative or qualitative in nature (e.g., experimental, descriptive, or correlational studies; qualitative case studies or a series of case reports; phenomenology, ethnography, or grounded theory research).

Silver Quill Award: Knowledge Translation



Included in this category are systematic reviews or metasyntheses related to qualitative research, meta- analysis, clinical practice guidelines, and scholarly articles designed to enhance the readership's understanding of research methods (e.g., data analysis techniques, sample size estimation, systematic strategies for clinical decision-making) or application of theory to practice.

Silver Quill Award: Student Research

In this category are articles in which the lead author completed the work as part of their graduate degree. Articles that represent either original research or knowledge translation may be eligible for this award.

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

Silver Quill Award: Quantitative or Qualitative Research or Student Research

The following criteria will be rated:

- Importance and clarity of hypothesis, research question and/or purpose.
- Methodological rigor, i.e., sample selection, choice of design, appropriate data-analysis techniques.
- Degree to which the results address the research questions and the aim and/or hypothesis are addressed.
- Completeness of the discussion (i.e., discussion of limitations, suggestions for research and discussion of findings in relation to their published work).
- Potential for findings to influence physiotherapy practice, education or research.
- Inclusion and discussion of recent and relevant literature cited (in introduction and discussion).
- Inclusion of clinical implications for practitioners.
- Clarity of writing.

Silver Quill Award: Knowledge Translation

The following criteria will be rated:

- Importance of knowledge-translation goal or purpose of the article.
- Discussion of recent and relevant literature cited (in introduction and discussion).
- Inclusion of clinical implications for practitioners.
- Clarity of writing.
- Overall value of the knowledge translated for clinicians, educators and researchers.
- Breadth of the reader audience for whom this knowledge-translation information may be of use.

SELECTION PROCESS

All articles published in the volume of the award year are reviewed by a Review Committee made up of a panel of Associate Editors and two to three reviewers selected by the Scientific Editor.

Each article is considered on the basis of its appearance in Physiotherapy Canada.



If the members of the Review Committee conclude that no articles are deserving of a Silver Quill Award in any or all of the categories, none shall be awarded.

NOTIFICATION

The CPA will contact the principal author and ensure all secondary authors are notified. The principal author and all secondary authors are invited to the Awards ceremony at the CPA Congress.

