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SEPTEMBER EDITION

The Pharma Focus

Quarterly

Your touchstone for the latest Pharma research

Welcome to the new issue of Pearson's quarterly newsletter, The Pharma Focus! Our Pharma team is dedicated to curating the most relevant content to help you stay informed about the Pharma research industry. This edition features updates from the Pharma research industry, a featured webinar with our partners at Biopharma Dive, pertinent and timely articles, and research that utilizes many of our own widely used assessments.



KOL SPOTLIGHT

Dr. John Harrison

Testing Cognition in Alzheimer's Disease Clinical Trials



The number of adults living with Alzheimer's Disease (AD) is expected to top 14 million by 2060.

Unfortunately, current treatments and clinical trials for new treatments have not been successful. What's holding back breakthroughs in finding new treatments for Alzheimer's disease?

In this on-demand webinar, subject matter expert, Dr. John Harrison, provides more insight into why assessment tools fail, strategies for selecting appropriate scales, and how better endpoint measures can help advance AD research.

ACCESS ON-DEMAND →

Meet us at CNS Summit 2024

Are you exploring optimal protocol outcomes? Let's have a conversation! Members of the Pharma Research Services team are attending and presenting a poster at CNS Summit 2024 in Boston, MA November 10–13. We would be delighted to meet you.

SCHEDULE TIME WITH US IN ADVANCE →



CONTENT SPOTLIGHT

Growth Scale Values (GSVs)

GSVs are a type of score that represents the absolute performance on a test and have been used for more than 50 years. Many of our assessments, such as the Bayley Scales of Infant and Toddler Development (Bayley-4) and Vineland-3, have the capability to provide GSVs.

This resource page features an infographic and additional technical resources about GSV development, interpretation, and out-of-level testing.

VISIT THE GSV PAGE →

BOT-3

New clinical outcome assessment available

The Bruininks-Oseretsky Test of Motor Proficiency™, Third Edition (BOT™-3) features updated norms, improved digital utility, a simplified kit, and several more revisions you'll love.

Learn more about using the BOT-3 in your upcoming clinical trial.

CONTACT US →

WAIS-5

New clinical outcome assessment available

The Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale®, Fifth Edition (WAIS®-5), will feature several updates to ensure you have the most current and relevant measure of cognitive ability for your study.

Learn more about using the WAIS-5 in your upcoming clinical trial.

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FEATURED ARTICLES

Review some thought leadership pieces and see how our clinical outcome assessments (COAs) are being used in the field.

Acknowledging comorbidities in trial design is essential for successful outcomes

Not only can comorbidities impact how a participant responds to a particular treatment, but ensuring researchers understand them can also help assess effectiveness of treatments across patient populations.

This article by Biopharma Dive and Pharma Research Services focuses on comorbidities and the importance of including diverse participants in clinical trials. It also explains why rigid protocols are hurting trial outcomes, not helping, and why adaptive approaches are needed.

READ THE ARTICLE [→](#)

Under pressure: the interplay of hypertension and white matter hyperintensities with cognition in chronic stroke aphasia

This study aimed to determine the effect of white matter hyperintensity burden on the relationship between hypertension and cognition in people with post-stroke aphasia. The hypothesis is that white matter hyperintensity load moderates the relationship between hypertension history and cognitive function. The Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale® (WAIS®) Matrix Reasoning subtest, which measures inductive reasoning and is frequently used to measure fluid intelligence, was included in the behavioral testing.

The findings highlight the need to evaluate cardiovascular risk factors in aphasia treatment, particularly hypertension and its relationship to brain health in post-stroke cognitive performance.

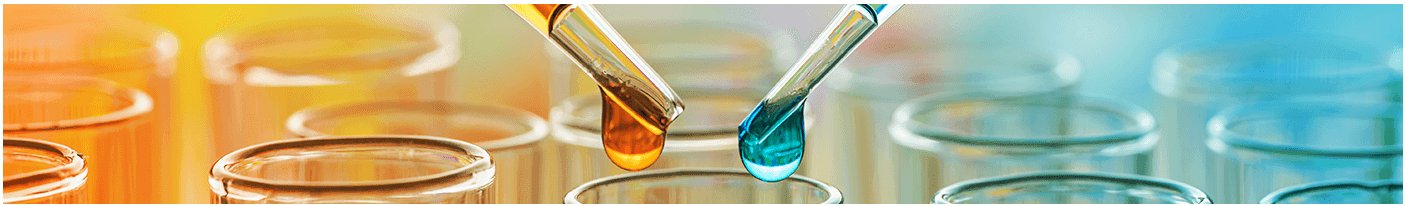
READ THE ARTICLE [→](#)

Cognitive flexibility is associated with sickness resilience

Metacognitive views, a psychological construct associated with health outcomes and well-being, have been connected to executive functioning, specifically cognitive flexibility. So far, however, these effects have only been considered on a theoretical level, and behavioral flexibility has typically been tested using self-report, which only approximates information processing capabilities. Objectively assessed executive functioning may be a better predictor of health outcomes. In this study, researchers set out to see if cognitive flexibility capacity is related to sick leave in a medium-sized organization.

This study included 111 people from various occupations and evaluated their executive functions using the Delis-Kaplan Executive Function System™ test battery (D-KEFS™).

READ THE ARTICLE →





PUBLISHED RESEARCH

The Pharma research page

Visit the Pharma Research page to discover a curated list of peer-reviewed publications spanning several clinical areas in the pharma industry, Growth Scale Value (GSVs) Reports, and the latest Pharma blog posts.

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MEET OUR TEAM

How can our team support you?

For over 80 years, Pearson has been at the forefront of developing the leading clinical and educational assessments used in many of today's research projects.

Pearson has continued building on each decade of experience and user feedback, and as a result, today's robust COA portfolio includes **reliable**, **valid**, and **sensitive tools** used by global pharmaceutical companies, biotech companies, and contract research organizations (CROs) conducting clinical research.



Lynsey Psimas,
PhD



Paul Williams,
PsyD



Jarett Lehner
Account Manager



Katrina Bengtson
Account Manager

Director of
Business
Development

Account Manager

Reach out to our Pharma team to start the conversation.

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C1058 MJL 10/24