



Susan Horn, PhD, FACRM

After 24 years of service as a research scientist at Johns Hopkins University, Dr. Susan D. Horn turned her considerable expertise to the interdisciplinary field of medical rehabilitation where she is highly esteemed as a researcher, teacher, leader, and colleague. She was uniquely prepared to lead other seasoned researchers and clinicians in innovative and disciplined research projects promoting causes important to the art and science of rehabilitation. She defined and introduced a new genre of comparative effectiveness research known as practice based evidence (PBE), which is particularly germane to examining the complex processes of inpatient rehabilitation. As an ACRM member she served on the Clinical Practice Committee as well as an ACRM group and task force. She made over one dozen presentations at ACRM meetings.

Among the numerous rehabilitation related investigations she has led are four large multi-centered studies designed to discover which of the numerous processes in the "black box" of intensive inpatient rehabilitation are most effective in leading to best outcomes. She teamed up with Dr. Gerben deJong to complete PBE studies of inpatient rehabilitation following stroke and joint replacement surgery. This was followed with studies of spinal cord injury with Dr. Gale Whiteneck, and traumatic brain injury with Dr. John Corrigan. Each study was presented at ACRM conferences and published in the Archives of PM&R. They were massive projects involving 6,367 subjects, several thousand rehabilitation clinicians in 43 rehabilitation centers in the US, Canada, and New Zealand, and made singular contributions to our understanding of rehabilitation management in each of these areas.

Dr. Horn's skill as a scientist, passion for investigation, dedication to promoting quality rehabilitation outcomes, and gracious manner enriched the experience for all who participated. She has endowed medical rehabilitation with a research methodology and body of knowledge that will inspire clinicians and researchers for decades.