



Call for Papers

Rehabilitation Robotics: *Contemporary Issues and Future Directions*

For more than a decade now, robotic devices have steadily made their way into rehabilitation settings throughout the world. In the early days, the idea of treating patients with robots was more science fiction than reality. Yet, today, most major rehabilitation centers have some form of advanced technology being used to deliver daily therapy to their patients. While efficacy data are still sparse, it appears that robotic technologies will continue to expand into the rehabilitation setting as will clinician acceptance of these devices.

The purpose of this single-topic issue of the *Journal of Rehabilitation Research & Development (JRRD)* is to move the field of rehabilitation robotics forward by putting together a collection of papers focusing on the need for these devices, evidence supporting their effectiveness, gaps in rehabilitation where technologies could be helpful, and the current state of the field. Common themes related to rehabilitation robotics include but are not limited to upper-limb devices, lower-limb devices, enhancement of robotic technologies with complementary technologies such as virtual reality and functional electrical stimulation, and cost and economic issues related to the field.

Interested authors should submit a short abstract of their proposed manuscript by email to joehidler@gmail.com by December 1, 2009. Include “Rehabilitation Robotics” in the subject line.

Abstracts will be reviewed for their relevance to the theme of this special-topic issue. Selected authors will be invited to submit their entire manuscript, according to *JRRD* Editorial Policies <http://www.rehab.research.va.gov/jour/policy09.pdf>. All selected manuscripts will undergo the standard peer-review process by *JRRD* editors and peer referees as defined by *JRRD* policies.

Abstract Guidelines

- Submissions must represent the authors’ own work.
- Abstracts should be structured—Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusions.
- Abstracts should consist of a maximum of 200 words, include text only (tables, graphs, and graphics should **not** be included), and contain sufficient information to represent the proposed manuscript.
- The discussion should include implications for research and veteran healthcare.
- Abstracts must include all coauthors’ names and affiliations.

Important Dates

- Abstract submissions end December 1, 2009.
- Authors of selected submissions will be notified by email by January 1, 2010.

