



Short term scientific mission announcement for Grant period 3 (May 2016-April 2017)

Title: Creating an international standard for procedures in translating and cross-cultural adapting tinnitus questionnaires: A checklist with extension and elaboration.

Host: National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Nottingham Hearing Biomedical Research Unit, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK
<http://www.hearing.nihr.ac.uk/>

Supervisor: Prof Deborah Hall

Goal of the Short Term Scientific Mission: Many tinnitus questionnaires have been translated and adapted from their source language into other target languages for use in countries that sometimes have very different experiences of daily life. Although good translation and cross-cultural adaption products do not assure the success of a study, if poorly done, such products can mean that an otherwise sound study fails simply because the poor quality of translation and cross-cultural adaption prevents researchers from collecting comparable data.

The intention is to produce a set of guidelines which can be used as a best practice standard for the development and reporting of questionnaire translation and cross-cultural adaption for use in other countries. Rather than create a new set of guidelines, we will synthesise components of good practice that are already established. Longer term goals are to evaluate how well the work already conducted a commonly used tinnitus questionnaire (such as the Tinnitus Handicap Inventory) fits these best practice standards. Several recent publications by TINNET members may be relevant here:

<http://journal.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fnagi.2016.00272/full>
<http://journal.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fpsyg.2016.01871/abstract>

What we can offer to the grantee: Our research team is dedicated to tinnitus and our passion is to create reliable knowledge that can underpin evidence-based practice for people with tinnitus. The team includes Prof Deborah Hall, Dr Derek Hoare and Dr Magdalene Sereda, and we currently also another research fellow and five PhD students, plus a statistician, and research administrator. We have expertise in Delphi surveys, systematic reviews and psychometric validation of outcome instruments. We conduct carefully designed, randomized controlled trials that seek to provide rigorous and systematic evaluations of the audiological and psychological interventions that reflect most common clinical practice at the moment. We also evaluate novel management strategies that the clinical profession judges are likely to benefit tinnitus management. In particular we want to encourage open debate on the validity of outcome instruments for tinnitus and we've recently published a critical review of some frequently used measures:

https://www.novapublishers.com/catalog/product_info.php?products_id=50204

As Chair of the 'outcomes' working group within TINNET, I am interested in how we can best establish standards for outcome measurements in clinical trials to enable data collection of

treatment results in the central database. This is important for establishing a standard for the performance of clinical trials in tinnitus.

This project has the support of the International Collegium of Rehabilitative Audiologists (ICRA), and includes collaboration with Prof Lena Wong, Faculty of Education, The University of Hong Kong. <https://icra-audiology.org/documentsworkinggroups/translation-and-cross-cultural-adaptation-of-questionnaires>

The anticipated output is the completion of a guideline publication in the International Journal of Audiology, co-authored with the Nottingham team, plus other participants of TINNET, ICRA and Prof Chris Evans, an independent expert in questionnaire cross-cultural adaptation (see the CORE-OM). The successful STSM applicant will be a co-author on this guideline publication based on their input generated during the STSM period.

The findings will provide an essential foundation for further discussions across the TINNET network about optimal outcome instruments relevant to each identified core domain.

Requirements of the grantee:

This Short Term Scientific Mission would be ideal for someone with experience in questionnaire translation and cross-cultural validation in a different healthcare area and who wishes to translate that experience and expertise. We particularly encourage applications from people working in the commercial sector. Active engagement with the rest of the TINNET network, and further afield, will be encouraged.

Duration: This mission is available for up to 2 weeks (10 days) from January 2017.

How to get in contact with the STSM supervisor: Email deborah.hall@nottingham.ac.uk

How to apply for the STSM

Please contact Prof Deborah Hall in the first instance. If both parties agree, please request an application form from Susanne Staudinger Susanne.Staudinger@medbo.de, and 'cc malgorzata.wrzosek@amu.edu.pl.

After completion of the STSM the grantee is required to submit a scientific report (3-4 pages) on the visit within 30 days after end of the stay. Please submit the report to the STSM coordinator: malgorzata.wrzosek@amu.edu.pl