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# Clinical Research Methods in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

By David Irwin, Mary Pannbacker, Norman J. Lass



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Written for graduate students and practicing clinicians, this textbook, now in its second edition, provides comprehensive knowledge about understanding and conducting clinical research. Specifically, readers will learn to understand the strengths and weaknesses of different research methodologies, apply the results of research to clinical practice and decision making, and understand the importance of research ethics.

Importantly, this is the only book to take into account qualitative research and evidence-based practice, and to provide a detailed discussion of research ethics. For the second edition, the authors have updated and expanded the content. New and expanded topics include:

- HIPAA and its impact on research
- Knowledge and skills needed for evidence-based research
- Application of revised Codes of Ethics to research: AAA (2011) and ASHA (2010)
- Comparison of ASHA (2005) and (2007) levels of evidence
- Chronology of research misconduct in the United States
- Organizational support for evidence-based practice
- Framing questions: PICO and PESICO
- Research utilization
- Information literacy
- Use of social networking as a research database
- Using single-subject design for ASD subjects

In addition, the chapter on research grants includes an updated and expanded list of potential funding sources for grant-seeking purposes, both online and text-based, for federal, foundation, association, and corporate research grants.

With its updated content and many new features, *Clinical Research Methods in speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, Second Edition* is an excellent choice for students and professionals seeking to increase their knowledge of research in communication sciences and disorders.



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## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

"This is an excellent resource for anyone interested in research. The inclusion of information on ethics, grant writing, treatment outcomes, and evidence-based practice as well as the more standard information on design and statistics set this apart from other research design books. The text is well organized, and the writing is clear and understandable. It would make an excellent textbook for a research design course. [Refers to First Edition] --Sheila V. Stager, BSc, MS, MS, PhD (Voice Treatment Center), Doody's Review Service, (2008)

...While there are a number of very good texts that are written for our discipline most of which are referenced in this book no one text I have used has covered the broad number of topics I want students to learn in my course. That was true until I was able to review *Clinical Research Methods in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology* (2nd ed.) by Irwin, Pannbacker, and Lass, a text I had not previously examined. *Clinical Research Methods* ... contains 14 well-written and well-referenced chapters. The text is easy to read, even for students encountering these concepts for the first time. Chapter topics cover the gamut from an introduction to research to the evaluation of tests and treatments to coverage of issues related to research proposals and grants. The authors appear to have written the text both for students (future clinicians) who need to learn how to evaluate research in the discipline in order to apply it to practice, and for potential investigators. These dual purposes are difficult to balance, but Irwin, Pannbacker, and Lass do a fine job in maintaining clear explanations and providing a depth of content important for both audiences. The formatting and style of each chapter are especially helpful for readers.... Some chapters stand out as particular assets to users: The chapter on research ethics is well-researched and thoughtful. The inclusion of a chapter on multimethod research may be ahead of publications in the field due to the apparent dearth of such studies in speech language pathology and audiology. Particularly helpful is the information contrasting narrative reviews, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses.... *Clinical Research Methods in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology* (2nd ed.) by Irwin, Pannbacker, and Lass is a comprehensive introductory text written for students in communication disorders and for potential investigators. I recommend it for a graduate course in research methods because of its broad range of covered topics, helpful pedagogical features, and extensive references. This text will be on my book adoption order for next year!" --Gail B. Kempster, *International Journal of Audiology* (2014)

"This book is a comprehensive description of modern clinical research methods. It is primarily written with the student in mind and assumes little prior knowledge. However any audiologist returning to research after a break would benefit from it. If you just plan to contribute to the profession by doing a bit of research of a practical or enquiring kind, there is a lot in the book for you....

The book's main advantage over other research methods texts for the Australian Audiologist is the use of examples of research that are relevant to us. This makes it easier to engage with the concepts as they are presented. The text is highly structured with each chapter having an outline, learning objectives, introduction, content, summary, discussion questions and excellent references. The structure makes it highly suitable as a textbook for audiology courses. It is well written and clear in its explanations....

Overall, this is an excellent text, that it has come to a second edition alone highly recommends it. It is a complete, structured description of modern clinical research methods. It is highly recommended as preparation for anyone planning to do research of a primary or secondary kind or even if they just want to start reading a bit more of the literature in their field. It could easily be used as the basis for a course at an

undergraduate or post graduate level. But it is more- it is relevant to modern clinical practice and extremely encouraging and positive about the outlook for professions that get involved in research." --Chris Whitfield, BSC, MA, AudiologyNow (2013)

#### About the Author

**Dr. David Irwin** has a doctorate in speech-language pathology from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. He is retired from Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center as Professor and Head of the Children's Center.

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