Clinical scenarios related to geriatric physical therapy practice have been added to the Hooked on Evidence website. These scenarios are for management of patients with a number of conditions which affect older adults, including deconditioning, falls, fractures, and osteoporosis, and were developed by a group of expert physical therapist clinicians and researchers.

The scenarios can be accessed in Hooked on Evidence by clicking the link titled Search Clinical Scenarios and are indexed according to the type of Preferred Practice Pattern and conditions they represent. As an example, a clinician who is interested in using interventions that can improve gait speed in patients after a hip fracture would go to the drop down lists and select musculoskeletal as the practice pattern, fractures in older adults as the condition, and the scenario titled older adult with a femur fracture (Figure 1). After selecting the appropriate scenario, a description of the scenario, a reference list, and an outcome list is then displayed (Figure 2). The scenario provides a one paragraph description of a typical patient with the condition and includes text in bold to identify key findings from the examination. The reference list includes articles that relate to these key findings, is organized by study design type, and includes a hyperlink to an extraction of the article, which presents additional information on the participants, interventions, and outcomes of the study. Figure 3 presents a sample view of an individual article extract. Note that an extract provides a link to the PubMed abstract which may further link to full-text of the article. Full-text of an article may also be available through APTA’s Open Door at www.apta.org/opendoor.

A list of outcomes related to the clinical scenario is accessed by scrolling to the bottom of the page and allows a
A unique feature of these clinical scenarios is for the clinician to view results from multiple studies (Figure 4). Clicking on the hyperlink for the type of outcome, such as gait, pain, functional limitation, etc. displays measures of treatment effect size for the treatment groups investigated in the randomized clinical trials for the scenario. These measures are calculated when the appropriate data is provided in the original article. Treatment groups are categorized according to the type of procedural interventions using the framework of the Guide to Physical Therapist Practice. For outcomes measured on a continuous scale, the standardized mean difference is calculated as the measure of treatment effect size. For outcomes measured on a dichotomous scale, an odds ratio, risk ratio, and number needed to treat are calculated. Definitions and guidance in interpreting these measures is provided throughout the website, including a section of frequently asked questions and help buttons. In cases where more than one study compared similar types of interventions and outcomes, a measure of pooled treatment effect size is calculated and displayed (a pooled standardized mean difference for continuous outcomes and a pooled odds ratio for dichotomous outcomes).

Returning to the earlier example, a clinician would click on the gait hyperlink in the outcomes section to access a summary of the randomized clinical trials that reported appropriate data for this outcome. Figure 5 demonstrates graphs of some of the studies indexed for this scenario. Quickly, looking at the graphs a clinician can see studies where one treatment group was more effective than the comparison or where there was no difference in effectiveness between treatment groups. In Figure 5, there is one study where the graph of the standardized mean difference and its confidence interval is to the left of 0 indicating that the intervention was more effective than the comparison in improving gait. The user of Hooked on Evidence can then click on the link to the article extract for more information on the participants, specific interventions, and gait outcome reported in the study.
scenarios is the ability for the evidence to be updated as new studies appear in the literature. Hooked on Evidence allows for appropriate articles to be added to the scenarios as soon as the article is extracted into the database. In contrast, published systematic reviews may take years till an updated version that incorporates new evidence appears in press.

Hooked on Evidence may be accessed at www.hookedonevidence.org and is a benefit of membership in APTA. Questions and feedback regarding the scenarios can be sent via e-mail to hookedonevidence@apta.org.

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