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There is a gap in understanding how the current pandemic is affecting older adults’ outdoor physical activity. This study aimed to explore older adults’ perceptions of their outdoor physical activity during the current pandemic. A qualitative descriptive approach was taken with a conventional content analysis. Participants were primarily recruited through ResearchMatch. Eighteen community-dwelling older adults were individually interviewed from geographical locations across the United States; 61.1% female, 88.9% White, mean age 76.4 (range 68-92), 5 ambulated with a cane or walker. We identified an overarching theme of Benefits and Motivation in which older adults conveyed wanting to maintain and improve their health and used the outdoors to continue physical activity since indoor activities decreased during the pandemic. Walking was expressed as the most frequent outdoor physical activity. Implications of these findings will be discussed which include supporting community improvements to facilitate older adults’ ease of maintaining a walking routine.

FROM KNOWING TO DOING: WHAT IS NEEDED TO SUPPORT PATIENTS IN CHANGING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
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Physical therapists often treat pain and functional limitations associated with chronic musculoskeletal conditions common in aging adults. While patient report improvement after physical therapy, these results do not translate to sustained physical activity. This is a lost opportunity to support aging adults in adopting behaviors proven to improve quality of life and reduce comorbidity burden. We conducted semi-structured interviews with 30 physical therapists to understand how they support adoption of physical activity and identify what is needed to improve uptake. Physical therapists endorse physical activity as essential in the management of MSK conditions. Eliciting motivation, addressing psychosocial needs, and empowering patients to actively engage in solutions were identified as significant challenges in the effort to change physical activity. At the clinician level, physical therapists identified the need for improved skills in motivational interviewing and person-centered communication. Improved coordination with mental health providers and community resources were identified as environmental needs.

COACH2MOVE: THE STORY OF IMPLEMENTING A PERSON-CENTERED PHYSICAL THERAPY APPROACH IN CLINICAL PRACTICE
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Coach2Move is a person-centered physical therapy approach to promote physical activity among community-dwelling older adults, which consists of motivational interviewing and other motivational strategies. Coach2Move has been implemented in the Netherlands with 52 physical therapists and 294 patients in 16 practices. Implementation has led to better outcomes (increased physical activity, improved functional mobility, and lower levels of frailty) in fewer treatment sessions compared with usual care physical therapy treatment. Implementing was carried out using the following steps: 1) an e-assessment to determine the baseline level of knowledge regarding Coach2Move of the participating therapists; 2) two education days in Motivational Interviewing and Coach2Move specific motivational strategies; 3) three unique peer-assessment meetings and 4) a retest of the e-assessment one year later. We will discuss our rationale for selecting implementation strategies and which barriers and facilitators we have experienced in implementing successful scientific research in daily clinical practice.

SESSION 1130 (SYMPOSIUM)

PSYCHOSOCIAL RESILIENCE, FAMILY SUPPORT, AND COGNITIVE STATUS: FROM EVIDENCE TO ACTION
Chair: Hanzhang Xu Co-Chair: Bei Wu Discussant: Man Guo

Increasing evidence suggests the important role of social connections and family support in maintaining optimal cognitive status among older adults. This symposium includes four studies from China and the U.S. with a focus on generating actionable evidence to inform the development of strategies that target psychosocial resilience and family support to promote cognitive health. Using data from the 2006, 2010, and 2014 waves of the Health and Retirement Study, the first study assessed the impact of social isolation on cognitive function, and how sleep disturbance mediated the association on cognitive decline. The study findings suggest addressing sleep disturbance might be a viable way to mitigate the negative effect of social isolation on cognitive function. Companion piece includes another HRS-based study that assessed the impact of loneliness on psychological resilience and cognitive health in later life. Findings from this study show loneliness is indirectly associated with baseline cognitive status and accelerated cognitive decline through deteriorating psychological resources. The third study used a prospective longitudinal design and applied group-based trajectory modeling to identify distinct family functions among 170 Chinese stroke survivors. Four family function trajectories were identified; healthy and stable family function was associated with better cognition and quality of life. Lastly, the fourth study aimed to use an experienced-based co-design approach to develop a cognitive training intervention to promote cognitive health in older Chinese immigrants in the U.S. This approach allows researchers to engage end-users early and to optimize the development of a culturally and linguistically relevant cognitive training intervention.

COGNITIVE TRAINING FOR OLDER CHINESE IMMIGRANTS IN THE US: AN EXPERIENCE-BASED CO-DESIGN APPROACH
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