

2007 Pilot Research Project  
University of Maryland Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center and  
Rehabilitation Research and Development Center of Excellence in Exercise and Robotics in Neurological Disorders

PI:

Title of Proposal:

Please circle your rating for each category and provide a brief justification of your score.

<u>Level of Enthusiasm</u>	<u>Score</u>	<b>SCORE</b> _____
Outstanding	1.00 - 1.50	
Excellent	1.51 - 2.00	
Very Good	2.01 - 2.50	
Good	2.51 - 3.50	
Acceptable	3.51 - 5.00	
NRFC	Not recommended for further consideration, for those applications lacking significant merit	
Deferred	Applications needing additional information in order to complete review.	

1. Scientific Merit. Significance and originality from a scientific and technical standpoint.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      **SCORE** \_\_\_\_\_

Are the aims logical and important to the field of aging, rehabilitation, and musculoskeletal functioning? What are the original/novel aspects of the proposed research? Will the results of the proposed research be significant to the field of aging research, particularly relating to the theme of the Pepper Center and VA RR&D Center of Excellence research? What is the potential for this work to compete for national peer-reviewed funding?

2. Methodology and ability to conduct the research.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      **SCORE** \_\_\_\_\_

Are the procedures feasible and appropriate? Are the measures valid and reliable? Are there any limitations to the procedures or study design? Are the proposed sample size estimates adequate to test the hypotheses? Are the proposed data analysis procedures appropriate?

3. Applicability of the research question to the theme of the Pepper Center and VA RR&D Center of Excellence.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      **SCORE** \_\_\_\_\_

Does the research involve an intervention in its experimental design or developmental phase? Is the project related to disability in the elderly, either in the area of clinical investigation, mechanisms of disease, health services or outcomes research, medical informatics, preventive medicine and/or epidemiology? Is the project applicable to the area of disability in the elderly and the application of interventions to alleviate functional disabilities?

4. Qualifications and experience of the PI and collaborating staff.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      **SCORE** \_\_\_\_\_

Does the research team have the requisite expertise and experience to conduct the research successfully? Is there evidence that the PI will derive a learning experience with a senior faculty mentor during the conduct of this research? Is that mentor an experienced investigator in gerontology?

5. How reasonable are the proposed budget and project timeline?

Is there a timeline, and can the project be adequately completed within the period of time allocated for the resources requested in the budget? Can the project be conducted with the proposed budget? Have all costs been identified and are they justified? Is the proposed project duration and budget sufficient to successfully carry out the research?

Acceptable \_\_\_\_\_

Unacceptable \_\_\_\_\_ Please explain:

6. Other factors: human subjects, animal welfare, biohazards, etc.

If human subjects are involved, has the investigator adequately described the informed consent procedures and methods for protecting confidential information and minimizing risks? If animals are involved, will measures be performed to minimize distress, pain, or injury? If biohazardous materials (e.g., recombinant DNA, chemical carcinogens) will be used, are the procedures/facilities adequate for preventing personnel exposure and environmental contamination? Are there any ethical concerns regarding the proposed project?

Acceptable \_\_\_\_\_

Unacceptable \_\_\_\_\_ Please explain

\_\_\_\_\_(print name)

Reviewed By: \_\_\_\_\_ (signature)