



Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Leadership



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MEDICINE

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Jeffrey B. Palmer, M.D.

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Dr. Jeffrey B. Palmer is the director and physiatrist in chief of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Palmer, also the Lawrence Cardinal Shehan Professor, came to Hopkins in 1983 as an assistant professor in the department. In 1992, Palmer was promoted to associate professor in both the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and the Department of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery at Hopkins. Since 2000, Palmer has served as the director of research for the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and in 2002, he was promoted to professor in both departments. In 2004, Dr. Palmer was appointed director of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

His research focuses on neural control of mastication and swallowing, with support by the National Institutes of Health, beginning with a Clinical Investigator Development Award from 1987 to 1992 and continuing with an uninterrupted series of research grants.

Dr. Palmer is a founding member of the editorial advisory board of the journal *Dysphagia* and is an associate editor of the *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*. He is a member of the boards of directors of the MedStar Research Institute and the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra. Dr. Palmer directs the department's swallowing disorders program and was elected the first honorary member of the Japanese Society for Dysphagia Rehabilitation.

He is the author of 60 scientific publications and has given more than 50 scientific presentations on dysphagia or difficulty in swallowing, a condition

that affects millions worldwide. He also co-authored a book on spinal cord injury for patients and their families.

Dr. Palmer earned his M.D. from New York University School of Medicine in 1980 and completed his residency at the University of Washington in Seattle, where he also received his master's degree in rehabilitation medicine. He holds a B.A. in music from the NYU College of Arts and Sciences and studied as a piano major at the Juilliard School of Music.

Kenneth Silver, M.D.

Dr. Silver is clinical vice chair and associate professor in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and medical director of Rehabilitation Services at Good Samaritan Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. He joined Johns Hopkins Medicine in July 2004. He previously served as chief of the Division of Rehabilitation in the Department of Neurology at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. He was on the full-time faculty at Johns Hopkins in Rehabilitation Medicine from 1984 through 1994 before leaving for the University of Maryland. During that time, he maintained a part-time faculty position at Johns Hopkins.

He has authored and co-authored numerous papers and book chapters in the field of rehabilitation medicine and has received grant funding in the areas of dysphagia and stroke rehabilitation. He has conducted clinical trials on the use of medications to treat spasticity in stroke patients and has lectured nationally and internationally. His clinical and research interests include stroke rehabilitation, injection procedures to manage abnormal muscle tone (spasticity) and electrodiagnostic procedures (EMG).



Kenneth Silver, M.D.



Dr. Silver earned his medical degree and completed his residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation at the University of Maryland.

**Jahansha Behzad, M.B.A.,
C.P.A., C.I.S.A.**

Jahansha Behzad is the administrator for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Johns Hopkins and is responsible for all operational aspects of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation for Johns Hopkins Medicine. With extensive experience in health care administration and finance, Mr. Behzad provides strategic oversight and management for PM&R's medical practice and hospital operations as well as ambulatory service sites. His career spans more than 20 years of progressively increasing responsibility with Pricewaterhouse Coopers, Tenet Healthcare Corporation, Sutter Health, Med-Star Health and the Johns Hopkins Health System.

A C.P.A. and certified information systems auditor (C.I.S.A.), Mr. Behzad holds an M.B.A. (strategic management) from the Johns Hopkins University; a graduate certification in management and administration of health care facilities from UCLA; and a B.S.B.A. (accounting) from San Diego State University.

Rebecca Z. German, Ph.D, M.Sc.

Dr. German is vice chair for research in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. She came to Hopkins in 2005 after 15 years as professor of biological sciences at the University of Cincinnati.

Her work focuses on the potential interactions that exist among evolution, biomechanics, physiology, anatomy and

growth. The two broad areas of her research include the functional and neurophysiologic basis of oropharyngeal function, and the heterochrony and morphology of skeletal growth. The aim of her work is to answer questions about the interface between form and function, particularly with respect to its effect on dysfunction and dysmorphology.

Dr. German has had extensive experience in developing research programs. She has supervised over 50 graduate students, most of whom are either active clinicians or researchers, in both academia and the private sector. She was the director of the Women in Science and Engineering program at the University of Cincinnati, where she developed numerous programs to encourage and support women at all stages of their careers in fields that have a notorious under-representation of women. She also has served on the editorial board of the journal *Growth, Development and Aging*, as well as numerous NIH study sections and review panels. She was a Senior Fulbright Scholar to Australia and was recently appointed a Visiting Raine Senior Fellow at the University of Western Australia, where she helped develop research and coursework and served as a consultant for future development for the School of Anatomy and Human Biology.

Dr. German was assistant professor of anatomy and orthodontics at Washington University's School of Dental Medicine. She earned her Ph.D. in biology from Harvard University in 1983, an M.Sc. in geological sciences from the University of Rochester, and an A.B. in mathematics from the University of Chicago.



Jahansha Behzad, M.B.A., C.P.A., C.I.S.A.



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