

February 7, 2020

Michael J. Constantino, Ph.D.
Past-President, North American Society for Psychotherapy Research
Past-President, Division 29 of the American Psychological Association
Professor and Graduate Program Director
Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences
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Dear Dr. Constantino:

It is with great enthusiasm that I endorse the results of your PCORI project, "Enhancing mental health care by scientifically matching patients to providers' strengths." As a Practice Directorate staff member at the American Psychological Association, we represent nearly 121,000 researchers, educators, clinicians, consultant and student members who work to advance the creation, communication and application of psychological knowledge to benefit society and improve people's lives. Specific divisions of APA representing subdisciplines of psychology such as the Society of Clinical Psychology, the Society of Counseling Psychology, Psychologists in Independent Practice, among others - have a particular interest in addressing suboptimal outcomes in community mental health treatment.

The results of your innovative comparative effectiveness trial provide data that will both reduce this gap and do so with a methodology that accommodates direct translation into clinical usage. Importantly, your subgroup results also show that the benefit of a Match system is more pronounced for racial and ethnic minority patients, as well as patients who enter treatment at the higher level of initial severity. Wow!

These results and your efforts are of particular interest to me and my organization as they reflect both our mission and strategic plan by expanding psychology's role in advancing health and increasing recognition of psychology as a science. Further, APA is well-positioned to disseminate such psychological knowledge through meetings, professional contacts, reports, papers, discussions and publications. For these reasons, we are very interested in projects such as yours that promise to inform the future delivery of psychotherapy.

Sincerely,

C. Vaile Wight, Ph.D.

C. Vaile Wright, Ph.D. Director of Clinical Research and Quality Practice Research and Policy

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