

	PO Box 6092 River Forest, IL 60305 www.promishealth.org info@promishealth.org
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Meet the 2026 Scholarship Award Winners

The Board of Directors is pleased to introduce the 2026 recipients of the PHO Scholarship Awards Program. Now in its eighth year, this competitive program has awarded 69 scholarships to attend the PHO's annual conference and continues to draw applications from students, medical trainees, postdoctoral fellows and early-career clinicians and researchers from around the world.

The award winners will present their research at the [12th Annual PROMIS International Conference](#) to be held 22-23 October, 2026 in Prague, Czechia. Scholarships are funded by generous donations from members and others to the PHO Scholarship Fund and the PHO Mission Fund.

Eline Alons, MSc, PhD focused her doctoral research on developing new item banks for measuring



communicative participation in children using the PROMIS methodology. This work demonstrated both the strong potential of PROMIS and the challenges of making PROs accessible for vulnerable groups with limited language or communication abilities. Following her PhD, she began working as a postdoctoral researcher at the Dutch-Flemish PROMIS National Center (PNC) in Amsterdam, where she advises clinicians and researchers, supports implementation, and contributes to national strategies on integrating PROs into care.

Suzanne Baxter, BS, BA is a medical student at McGovern Medical School, University of Texas, Houston,



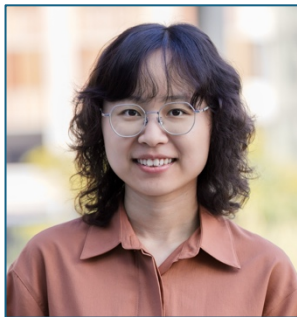
with an interest in pediatric neurology. Prior to medical school, she was a clinical orthopedic research assistant at Scottish Rite for Children and contributed to research using PROMIS Pain Interference measures with pediatric cerebral palsy patients. The research focused on understanding how pain affects children with cerebral palsy, how pain interference scores relate to healthcare utilization, and how pain relates to social determinants of health survey responses. She hopes to contribute to research during her medical education and training.

Daniel Broholm, PT, MScPT, DipMPT is a PhD student in the in the Departments of Anesthesiology and



Intensive Care Medicine at the University Hospital Odense and University of Southern Denmark in Odense, Denmark. As a physiotherapist in interdisciplinary pain rehabilitation, his research aims to strength both the psychometric foundation and the clinical interpretability of PROMIS in chronic pain rehabilitation. The next phase of his research with PROMIS measures will be used to help predict treatment outcomes and improve referral, stratification, and care pathways for patients with chronic pain.

Fan-Ying Chan is a PhD student in the School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of



California, Irvine, where her interest areas are pharmacology, health outcomes, and machine learning. Her research is focused on supportive care in cancer. A current study examines PROMIS symptom reporting from different racial and ethnic groups compared to clinician-documented symptoms extracted from clinical notes. She is also developing a clinical trial to evaluate whether electronic patient-reported outcomes-driven, machine learning assisted supportive care navigation can reduce disparities among racial and ethnic minority cancer patients.

Ana Furmann, RN, PhD is a postdoctoral associate in health economics and health systems research program in the Dept. of Community Health Science at the University of Calgary



in Alberta, Canada. Her work has involved the use of various PROMs across chronic conditions. A current multi-center project is using PROMIS with inflammatory bowel disease patients across Canada. Applying PROMIS-29 in a large national cohort and linking multidimensional health domains to meaningful real-world outcomes, such as work productivity and daily functioning, has underscored the value of PROMIS as a comprehensive and scalable tool to capture patient-centered burden.

Dorinde Korteling, MSc, PhD focused her doctoral work on enhancing shared decision-making in pediatric



physiotherapy. Her work bridges theory and practice by improving patient-reported outcomes and communication between children, parents and physiotherapists. Now a postdoctoral researcher at Amsterdam University UMC and a member of the Dutch-Flemish PROMIS National Center, a current project includes extending the PROMIS Pediatric Mobility and Upper Extremity item banks. The goal is to improve reliability for children with average to high functioning and explore how children using mobility aids interpret these instruments through cognitive interviews.

Henry Michael, BPharm, MSc, PhD is a postdoctoral associate in the Dept of Community Health Sciences, University of Calgary in Alberta, Canada. His engagement with PROMIS instruments began through a recognition that standard IRT calibration can produce systemically biased scores in populations defined by intersecting social determinants. His research represents the methodological core of his postdoctoral program in equity-centered patient-reported outcome measurement. His next steps involve translating bias-corrected item parameters into equity-aware computerized adaptive testing algorithms for integration into two active clinical platforms at his institution.



Hana Moosa, MS is a pediatric research coordinator at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas and an aspiring medical student interested in pediatric care and health equity. Working with social determinants of health data in a pediatric rheumatology division, PROMIS has provided a language to quantify and confirm patients' reports of pain, mobility limitations, and anxiety as real, persistent, and unevenly distributed across their diverse population. She is invested in strengthening the work underway to ensure every patient's voice is captured and meaningfully used, regardless of background or diagnosis.



Claire Morton, MD, MPP is a general surgery resident and health services researcher at Yale New Haven Hospital in New Haven, Connecticut. Over the past year, she has worked on developing PROMIS-based custom short forms that are psychometrically robust and deeply relevant to older adults recovering from hospitalization. This work incorporated expert relevance ratings and structured cognitive debriefing interviews with recently hospitalized patients to ensure clarity, relevance, and feasibility. As a flexible measurement system, PROMIS allowed preserving rigor and comparability while adapting content to a clinically consequential period that is not well served by existing instruments.



Nyla Nasir is an undergraduate student at Harvard University and a participant in the Institute of Medical Science Summer Undergraduate Research Program at the University of Toronto. Under supervision there, she has been conducting multivariable regression and subgroup analyses to analyze disparities in kidney health outcomes using PROMIS CAT measures across racialized groups and immigration status. With a goal of becoming a physician, she wants to use PROMIS to support more equitable, patient-centered care and bring those insights into her studies and future training.



Bryan Ng, BSc, DPhil is a fellow scientist at the Institute for Human Development and Potential at A*STAR Singapore (Agency for Science, Technology and Research), where his research interest revolves around a common theme of dementia and its underlying neurodegenerative diseases. His work has demonstrated that PROMIS Cognitive Function scores are significantly associated with psychosocial factors, lifestyle variables, circulating inflammatory biomarkers, and established cognitive screening measures. It has broadened his understanding on self-reported variables, where PROMIS offers a scalable approach to detecting the earliest signs of cognitive impairment.



Sebastian Perry Pasten, MPH is a PhD student at Hospital del Mar Research Institute in Barcelona, Spain with interests in epidemiology and health services. Experience using PROMIS measures in the Asthma Research in Children and Adolescent (ARCA) project has been highly valuable in capturing the emotional burden of asthma beyond traditional clinical indicators. In this multicentric Spanish study, PROMIS anxiety and depression instruments allowed standardized and age-comparable assessment of mental health dimension in the cohort of patients with asthma without increasing participant burden.



Lisa Stikvoort, MSc is a PhD student at Amsterdam University Medical Centers in the Netherlands. With an interest in research aimed at making healthcare more accessible and effective for underserved populations, she is working on a project focused on the accessibility of PROMIS measures for individuals with low literacy and/or a migration background. She has been conducting interviews with these populations to evaluate the comprehensibility of Dutch PROMIS item banks and the cultural relevance of translated short forms. Drawing on these findings, she is currently adapting these measures and preparing for large scale psychometric validation.



Claudia Zensen, MPH is a PhD student at Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin in Germany. Her interest areas are PROMIS, PROs, value-based healthcare, and computer-based testing. She is a member of the Center for Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (CPCOR) at Charité, which functions as the PROMIS National Center Germany (PNC). She is contributing to a project that aims to revise a questionnaire for rehabilitation patients in Germany by fully integrating PROMIS items wherever possible to enable computer-adaptive testing for the first time. Its innovative scope and potential to advance patient-centered outcome measurement are key reasons for her strong interest in this field.

