

Nirit Rotem-Lehrer

Member Organization: Israel.

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A qualified physiotherapist since 1990, I am a clinician, educator, researcher, advocate and an agent of change. Specializing in orthopedics and sport physiotherapy and rehabilitation with former extensive experience in respiratory and acute care, in the last few years I have been focusing on physiotherapy for cancer patients. Over the years I have promoted the move toward emphasizing physical activity as a critical and major part in physiotherapy and have contributed to that in teaching, education, advocacy and clinically.

A founding member of the Israeli Physiotherapy Society (IPTS), the foundation of Israeli physiotherapists, I served as chairwoman of the society from 2006 to 2014 in which the society quadrupled its membership and solidified its governance and finances while becoming a leading professional organization. I have personally led the physiotherapy campaign for legislation which was successful when the health professions' law was passed in parliament in 2008. I have led and then taken part in a coordinated action to regulate the number of physiotherapy students by the association and the society's successful petition to the Supreme Court.

I have been a participant and then an active member in the European Region of World Physiotherapy (ER-WP) taking part, and at time the lead, in many of the Professional Practice Working Group activities, including writing and publishing of the position statement on cancer care and the moderating of webinars. I am also a member of the ER-WP cancer working group. For my contribution in the European Region I was honored with the 2022 award for outstanding service to physiotherapy in Europe.

In 2016 I have opened and have since administered a physiotherapists' social media group on Facebook, called PTdebate, which has become the predominant professional issues discussion and update forum in Israel.

Since 2023 as a member of the board World Physiotherapy I have been trying to promote and advocate for greater cooperation with and between regions and specialty groups.

POSITIONS AND ACTIVITY

- 2023 to present – member of the board of World Physiotherapy.
- 2023 to present– member of the National Council For The Prevention, Diagnosis And Treatment Of Cancer. The first and only physiotherapist to serve on the council.
- 2020 to present - member of the European Region Cancer Working group
- 2018 to present - Member of the national committee for the advancement of women in science and technology, operating within the Ministry of Science and Technology.
- 2012 to present – member of the European Region Professional Practice Working Group.
- 2006 to present- Delegate to the ER-WP GM in Athens, Berlin, Copenhagen, Cyprus, Dublin and Prague and to the WCPT GM in Amsterdam.
- 2006 to 2014 – Chairwoman of Israeli Physiotherapy Society

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL POSITION:

Head of the physiotherapy department of Tel Aviv Souraski Medical Center hospital, rehabilitation center and outpatient services.

TEACHING:

Lecturer in the Sports Medicine Program at the School of Continuing Medical Education, Sackler Faculty of medicine, Tel Aviv University (2007-present).

Lecturer and developer of CPD courses on motor control and learning, movement science, and evidence informed practice (2007- present).

Lecturer, University of Haifa, Department of Physical Therapy (2002-2016).

PUBLICATIONS:

- Druckmann, I., Schwartz, D., Rotem, N. et al. Skeletal muscle size and quality in healthy kidney donors, normal range and clinical associations. *Sci Rep* 14, 25257 (2024).
- 2017 - Weisman A, Meakins A, Rotem-Lehrer N. A Delphi Study: Defining a Unicorn. *Pain Med.* 2016 - N. Rotem Lehrer, N. Keshet, M. Azmon. Getting your data collected in a day (or two) – physiotherapy conference as a research opportunity. *Physiotherapy.* 2016 - Rotem-Lehrer N, Singer N, Reshit O, Springer S. Measuring Up to Expectation: Cognitive Bias in Wrist Range-of-Motion Measurement. *J Orthop Sports Phys Ther.*
- 2012 - Moffat, M., Hegenscheidt, S., Ng, S., Reid, D. A., Rotem-Lehrer, N., & Tremblay, M. Evidence-based exercise prescription: Raising the standard of delivery. *International Musculoskeletal Medicine.*
- 2007 -Rotem-Lehrer N, Laufer Y. Effect of Focus of Attention on Transfer of A Postural Control Task Following Ankle Sprain. *Journal Of Orthopedic & Sports Physical Therapy.*
- 2006 -Y. Laufer, N. Rotem-Lehrer, Z. Ronen, G. Khayutin, I. Rozenberg, Effect Of Focus Of Attention On Acquisition And Retention Of A Postural Control Task Following Ankle Sprain. *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.*

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS:

- Israeli Physiotherapy Society conference 2023 – Cancer rehabilitation. Keynote.
- World Physiotherapy Congress 2021 online - leading the discussion session on prevention and wellbeing.
- 4th European congress of the ER-WCPT, 2016, Liverpool - Getting your data collected in a day (or two) – physiotherapy conference as a research opportunity.
- 16TH World Conference of Physical Therapy, 2011, Amsterdam - Evidence based exercise prescription: raising the standard of delivery. Panel discussion. Invited.
- 1ST International Policy Summit on Direct Access and Advanced Scope Of Practice In Physical Therapy. 2009, Washington D.C., Policy Challenges and Opportunities. Invited presentation and panel participation.
- 14TH World Conference Of Physical Therapy, 2003, Barcelona Spain- Conservative Treatment Following ACL Injury

AWARDS:

- The 2022 European Region award for outstanding service to physiotherapy in Europe.
- Honorary member Israeli Physiotherapy Society, 2015
- Best paper award, 22nd international symposium in sports medicine, Tel Aviv 2006.