Global physiotherapy research priorities

1 Prevention and rehabilitation across the lifespan

Research on the effects of prevention, self-management and rehabilitation interventions and strategies for well-being across the lifespan ie long-term conditions and quality of life

2 Technology, innovation and digital transformation

Research on the role, value, integration and ethical aspects of technology and artificial intelligence in education and clinical practice across the profession

3 Equitable access and value-based care

Research on the cost-effectiveness of interventions and strategies, value-based health care, access to services in various contexts and reducing health inequities

4 Contextually responsive care

Research on factors that influence interventions and strategies and outcomes across populations, with attention to diversity, inclusivity and communities facing systemic barriers

5 Generating and moving evidence into practice

Research on models and approaches to knowledge translation to support the use of evidence-based guidelines while reducing low-value care

6 Health systems

Research on the value of direct access, universal health coverage, health policy, workforce planning and interprofessional collaborative practice

7 Practice competence and sustainability

Research on competencies and skills that reflect emerging roles, changing scope of practice, sustainable workplace settings and environmental factors.

8 Education and professional development

Research on contemporary and emerging professional education to optimise patient outcomes

9 Professional identity

Research on the evolution of professional identity and autonomy and how these shape the future of the profession

Whittaker JL, et al. Research priorities to advance the physiotherapy profession. *Journal of Physiotherapy*. 2026;4:288–298.