

**AWARD NUMBER:** W81XWH-17-1-0400

**TITLE:** Psychosocial Predictors in VCA

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:** Simon Talbot, MD

**CONTRACTING ORGANIZATION:** Brigham and Women's Hospital  
Boston, MA 02115

**REPORT DATE:** Sept 2018

**TYPE OF REPORT:** Annual Report

**PREPARED FOR:** U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command  
Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012

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# REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

Form Approved  
OMB No. 0704-0188

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<b>1. REPORT DATE</b> Sept 2018	<b>2. REPORT TYPE</b> Annual	<b>3. DATES COVERED</b> 15 Aug 2017 - 14 Aug 2018	
<b>4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE</b> Psychosocial Predictors in VCA		<b>5a. CONTRACT NUMBER</b>	
		<b>5b. GRANT NUMBER</b> W81XWH-17-1-0400	
		<b>5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER</b>	
<b>6. AUTHOR(S)</b> Simon Talbot, MD., Sarah Kinsley PA-C  E-Mail: <a href="mailto:sgtalbot@bwh.harvard.edu">sgtalbot@bwh.harvard.edu</a> ; skinsley@bwh.harvard.edu		<b>5d. PROJECT NUMBER</b>	
		<b>5e. TASK NUMBER</b>	
		<b>5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER</b>	
<b>7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)</b>  Brigham and Women's Hospital Boston, Massachusetts 02115		<b>8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER</b>	
<b>9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)</b>  U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012		<b>10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)</b>	
		<b>11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)</b>	
<b>12. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT</b>  Approved for Public Release; Distribution Unlimited			
<b>13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES</b>			
<b>14. ABSTRACT</b> During this period, administrative approvals were obtained including IRB and HRPO approvals for each aim of this study. Compilation of the International Registry of Hand and Composite Tissue Transplantation and psychosocial surveys is underway. The focus group interviews of transplant recipients, social support and experts in the field have been completed and transcribed. Data analysis is being completed.			
<b>15. SUBJECT TERMS</b> Psychosocial factors. Vascularized Composite Allotransplantation.			
<b>16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:</b>	<b>17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT</b>	<b>18. NUMBER OF PAGES</b>	<b>19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON</b>
			USAMRMC

<b>a. REPORT</b> Unclassified	<b>b. ABSTRACT</b> Unclassified	<b>c. THIS PAGE</b> Unclassified	Unclassified	23	<b>19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER</b> <i>(include area code)</i>
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**Standard Form 298 (Rev. 8-98)**  
Prescribed by ANSI Std. Z39.18

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**1. INTRODUCTION:** Narrative that briefly (one paragraph) describes the subject, purpose and scope of the research.

Over the past ten years, hand transplantation has moved from a purely experimental option for a few amputees to, at some institutions, the standard of care. This transition has occurred without a detailed, comprehensive, and objective analysis of the psychosocial factors that contribute to the success or failure of these unique transplants. Additionally, the selection of transplant recipients and donors is currently an inherently subjective process. By aggregating the quantitative data available, obtaining qualitative data from patients and physicians, and combining the opinions of experts, we expect to formulate a model or score that reflects the “best current” opinion regarding the appropriateness of a recipient for transplantation. This score is expected to be predictive of outcomes in patients who have already been transplanted and in those who will be transplanted going forward.

**2. KEYWORDS:** Provide a brief list of keywords (limit to 20 words).

Vascularized Composite Allotransplantation (VCA)  
Psychosocial factors  
Qualitative data  
Focus group

- 3. ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** The PI is reminded that the recipient organization is required to obtain prior written approval from the awarding agency Grants Officer whenever there are significant changes in the project or its direction.

**What were the major goals of the project?**

*List the major goals of the project as stated in the approved SOW. If the application listed milestones/target dates for important activities or phases of the project, identify these dates and show actual completion dates or the percentage of completion.*

The major goals of this project as stated in the Statement of Work include:		
Specific Aim 1 – To collate the comprehensive array of demographic, anatomic, medical, immunologic, social, psychiatric, donor and surgical/logistic variables held in the International Registry of Hand and Composite Tissue Transplantation (includes almost all cases performed to date internationally) and undertake statistical analysis.	Timeline in months per SOW	Completion
Milestone #1: All necessary staff hired	3	8, 2017
Milestone #2: IRB approval at BWH	6	7/3/2017
Milestone #3: Database creation, data collection	6	1/2018
Milestone #4: Detailed descriptive statistics complete	24	50%
Specific Aim 2 – To elucidate the core factors involved in transplant success and failure utilizing qualitative research methods to guide selection of patients.	Timeline in months per SOW	Completion
Milestone #1: Compilation of comprehensive set of potential transplant outcome predictors	18	75%
Specific Aim 3 – To develop a model, utilization expert opinion of hypothetical patients with a variety of psychosocial variable sand the RAND/UCLA appropriateness method, to help objectify the evaluations of hand transplant patients and validate the model developed in Aims 1 and 2 in actual patients from the several large volume centers where complete data is available.	Timeline in months per SOW	Completion
Milestone #1: Survey Useable	12	50%

**What was accomplished under these goals?**

*For this reporting period describe: 1) major activities; 2) specific objectives; 3) significant results or key outcomes, including major findings, developments, or conclusions (both positive and negative); and/or 4) other achievements. Include a discussion of stated goals not met. Description shall include pertinent data and graphs in sufficient detail to explain any significant results achieved. A succinct description of the methodology used shall be provided. As the*

*project progresses to completion, the emphasis in reporting in this section should shift from reporting activities to reporting accomplishments.*

During this first year of study, accomplishments include obtaining IRB and HRPO approvals for each of the three specific aims of the study. Through collaboration with the International Registry of Composite Tissue Transplantation (IRHCTT), anonymous data has been shared and is being analyzed. An anonymous psychosocial survey has been developed and distributed through the IRHCTT to worldwide transplant centers. This data is being analyzed to determine correlating factors to transplant success or failure.

Focus group interviews have been performed on 20 participants by our psychiatrist and psychologist. The participants include transplant recipients, their social support and experts in the field of transplantation. Transcription of these interviews has been completed and data analysis is underway.

A subaward contract is being developed to mirror our focus group interviews with the Medical University of Innsbruck, Austria. This will strengthen our data analysis. Currently, the subaward contract is being reviewed by the DoD.

**What opportunities for training and professional development has the project provided?**

*If the project was not intended to provide training and professional development opportunities or there is nothing significant to report during this reporting period, state “Nothing to Report.”*

*Describe opportunities for training and professional development provided to anyone who worked on the project or anyone who was involved in the activities supported by the project. “Training” activities are those in which individuals with advanced professional skills and experience assist others in attaining greater proficiency. Training activities may include, for example, courses or one-on-one work with a mentor. “Professional development” activities result in increased knowledge or skill in one’s area of expertise and may include workshops, conferences, seminars, study groups, and individual study. Include participation in conferences, workshops, and seminars not listed under major activities.*

Nothing to report.

**How were the results disseminated to communities of interest?**

*If there is nothing significant to report during this reporting period, state “Nothing to Report.”*

*Describe how the results were disseminated to communities of interest. Include any outreach activities that were undertaken to reach members of communities who are not usually aware of these project activities, for the purpose of enhancing public understanding and increasing interest in learning and careers in science, technology, and the humanities.*

Nothing to report.



**What do you plan to do during the next reporting period to accomplish the goals?**

*If this is the final report, state “Nothing to Report.”*

*Describe briefly what you plan to do during the next reporting period to accomplish the goals and objectives.*

During the next year, we will have completed our data analysis and determined psychosocial factors associated with transplant failure and success. We will then develop a model, based on expert opinion, to help objectify the evaluations of hand transplant patients. A survey of patient scenario vignettes will be created and distributed to transplant centers worldwide. We anticipate determining the top factors understood to influence transplant outcomes. Qualitative and quantitative analytic techniques will be used to code, categorize, and model expert opinions to develop a “scoring” model for potential transplant candidates. We will then prospectively validate the data collected through the IRHCTT in hand transplant within our site and the international database.

**4. IMPACT:** Describe distinctive contributions, major accomplishments, innovations, successes, or any change in practice or behavior that has come about as a result of the project relative to:

**What was the impact on the development of the principal discipline(s) of the project?**

*If there is nothing significant to report during this reporting period, state “Nothing to Report.”*

*Describe how findings, results, techniques that were developed or extended, or other products from the project made an impact or are likely to make an impact on the base of knowledge, theory, and research in the principal disciplinary field(s) of the project. Summarize using language that an intelligent lay audience can understand (Scientific American style).*

Development of an algorithmic, data-based protocol of psychosocial factors for optimal patient selection will directly improve chances of success in transplant recipients. This work will represent the first study to look globally at this problem and it stands to improve care for all future potential transplant patients.

**What was the impact on other disciplines?**

*If there is nothing significant to report during this reporting period, state “Nothing to Report.”*

*Describe how the findings, results, or techniques that were developed or improved, or other products from the project made an impact or are likely to make an impact on other disciplines.*

Nothing to report.

**What was the impact on technology transfer?**

*If there is nothing significant to report during this reporting period, state “Nothing to Report.”*

*Describe ways in which the project made an impact, or is likely to make an impact, on commercial technology or public use, including:*

- *transfer of results to entities in government or industry;*
- *instances where the research has led to the initiation of a start-up company; or*
- *adoption of new practices.*

Nothing to report.

**What was the impact on society beyond science and technology?**

*If there is nothing significant to report during this reporting period, state “Nothing to Report.”*

*Describe how results from the project made an impact, or are likely to make an impact, beyond the bounds of science, engineering, and the academic world on areas such as:*

- *improving public knowledge, attitudes, skills, and abilities;*
- *changing behavior, practices, decision making, policies (including regulatory policies), or social actions; or*
- *improving social, economic, civic, or environmental conditions.*

Nothing to report.

5. **CHANGES/PROBLEMS:** The Project Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) is reminded that the recipient organization is required to obtain prior written approval from the awarding agency Grants Officer whenever there are significant changes in the project or its direction. If not previously reported in writing, provide the following additional information or state, "Nothing to Report," if applicable:

**Changes in approach and reasons for change**

*Describe any changes in approach during the reporting period and reasons for these changes. Remember that significant changes in objectives and scope require prior approval of the agency.*

Nothing to report.

**Actual or anticipated problems or delays and actions or plans to resolve them**

*Describe problems or delays encountered during the reporting period and actions or plans to resolve them.*

Nothing to report.

**Changes that had a significant impact on expenditures**

*Describe changes during the reporting period that may have had a significant impact on expenditures, for example, delays in hiring staff or favorable developments that enable meeting objectives at less cost than anticipated.*

Nothing to report.

**Significant changes in use or care of human subjects, vertebrate animals, biohazards, and/or select agents**

*Describe significant deviations, unexpected outcomes, or changes in approved protocols for the use or care of human subjects, vertebrate animals, biohazards, and/or select agents during the reporting period. If required, were these changes approved by the applicable institution committee (or equivalent) and reported to the agency? Also specify the applicable Institutional Review Board/Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee approval dates.*

**Significant changes in use or care of human subjects**

Nothing to report.

**Significant changes in use or care of vertebrate animals.**

Nothing to report.

**Significant changes in use of biohazards and/or select agents**

Nothing to report.

6. **PRODUCTS:** List any products resulting from the project during the reporting period. If there is nothing to report under a particular item, state “Nothing to Report.”

- **Publications, conference papers, and presentations**

Report only the major publication(s) resulting from the work under this award.

**Journal publications.** *List peer-reviewed articles or papers appearing in scientific, technical, or professional journals. Identify for each publication: Author(s); title; journal; volume; year; page numbers; status of publication (published; accepted, awaiting publication; submitted, under review; other); acknowledgement of federal support (yes/no).*

Nothing to report.

**Books or other non-periodical, one-time publications.** *Report any book, monograph, dissertation, abstract, or the like published as or in a separate publication, rather than a periodical or series. Include any significant publication in the proceedings of a one-time conference or in the report of a one-time study, commission, or the like. Identify for each one-time publication: Author(s); title; editor; title of collection, if applicable; bibliographic information; year; type of publication (e.g., book, thesis or dissertation); status of publication (published; accepted, awaiting publication; submitted, under review; other); acknowledgement of federal support (yes/no).*

Nothing to report.

**Other publications, conference papers, and presentations.** *Identify any other publications, conference papers and/or presentations not reported above. Specify the status of the publication as noted above. List presentations made during the last year (international, national, local societies, military meetings, etc.). Use an asterisk (\*) if presentation produced a manuscript.*

Nothing to report.

- **Website(s) or other Internet site(s)**

*List the URL for any Internet site(s) that disseminates the results of the research activities. A short description of each site should be provided. It is not necessary to include the publications already specified above in this section.*

Nothing to report.

- **Technologies or techniques**  
*Identify technologies or techniques that resulted from the research activities. In addition to a description of the technologies or techniques, describe how they will be shared.*

Nothing to report.

- **Inventions, patent applications, and/or licenses**  
*Identify inventions, patent applications with date, and/or licenses that have resulted from the research. State whether an application is provisional or non-provisional and indicate the application number. Submission of this information as part of an interim research performance progress report is not a substitute for any other invention reporting required under the terms and conditions of an award.*

Nothing to report.

- **Other Products**  
*Identify any other reportable outcomes that were developed under this project. Reportable outcomes are defined as a research result that is or relates to a product, scientific advance, or research tool that makes a meaningful contribution toward the understanding, prevention, diagnosis, prognosis, treatment, and/or rehabilitation of a disease, injury or condition, or to improve the quality of life. Examples include:*
  - *data or databases;*
  - *biospecimen collections;*
  - *audio or video products;*
  - *software;*
  - *models;*
  - *educational aids or curricula;*
  - *instruments or equipment;*
  - *research material (e.g., Germplasm; cell lines, DNA probes, animal models);*
  - *clinical interventions;*
  - *new business creation; and*
  - *other.*

Nothing to report.

## 7. PARTICIPANTS & OTHER COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS

### What individuals have worked on the project?

Provide the following information for: (1) PDs/PIs; and (2) each person who has worked at least one person month per year on the project during the reporting period, regardless of the source of compensation (a person month equals approximately 160 hours of effort). If information is unchanged from a previous submission, provide the name only and indicate “no change.”

#### Example:

Name: Mary Smith  
Project Role: Graduate Student  
Researcher Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID): 1234567  
Nearest person month worked: 5

Contribution to Project: Ms. Smith has performed work in the area of combined error-control and constrained coding.  
Funding Support: The Ford Foundation (Complete only if the funding support is provided from other than this award).

Name: Simon Talbot  
Project Role: Principal Investigator  
Researcher Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):  
Nearest person month worked: 1.5  
Contribution to Project: Directs and oversees all phases of the study.

Name: Robert Edwards, PhD  
Project Role: Co-Investigator  
Researcher Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):  
Nearest person month worked: 0.48  
Contribution to Project: Directs qualitative portion of study and assists in all phases of study.

Name: Jeffrey Katz, MD, MSc  
Project Role: Co-Investigator  
Researcher Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):  
Nearest person month worked: 0.48  
Contribution to Project: Assists in all phases of the study, particularly qualitative research and case vignette development.

Name: Elena Losina, PhD  
Project Role: Co-Investigator  
Researcher Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):  
Nearest person month worked: 0.48  
Contribution to Project: Assists in all aspects of study and ensures methodologic and statistical needs are met. Involved in statistical analysis, development and testing of vignettes and will oversee finalizing of all data collection forms.



Name: Sejal Shah, MD  
Project Role: Co-Investigator  
Research Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):  
Nearest person month worked: 0.48  
Contribution to Project: Assist in all phases of study and development of focus group interviews and analysis of data.

Name: Matthew Carty, MD  
Project Role: Co-Investigator  
Research Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):  
Nearest person month worked: 0.24  
Contribution to Project: Assists in study planning and focus group expert interviews.

Name: George Dyer, MD  
Project Role: Co- Investigator  
Research Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):  
Nearest person month worked: 0.24  
Contribution to Project: Assists in study planning and focus group expert interviews.

Name: Sarah Kinsley  
Project Role: Research Study Coordinator  
Research Identifier:  
Nearest person month worked: 0.48  
Contribution to Project: Assists with data collection, basic analysis and to ensure that each phase of the project remains on schedule.

Name: Hannah Kerman  
Project Role: Research Assistant  
Research Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):  
Nearest person month worked: 12  
Contribution to Project: Responsible for performing literature reviews and development of study materials.

Name: Doris Strnad  
Project Role: Administrator  
Research Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):  
Nearest person month worked: 0.60  
Contribution to Project: Coordination of travel arrangements and conference meetings.

Name: Ying (Heidi) Yang, MS  
Project Role: Data Analyst  
Research Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):  
Nearest person month worked: 2.40  
Contribution to Project: Statistical analysis, development and implantation of data for vignettes.

Name: Faith Selzer, PhD OrACORe  
Project Role: Project Manager  
Research Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):  
Nearest person month worked: 0.48  
Contribution to Project: Oversees secondary data analysis and data collection projects.

Name: Jamie Collins, PhD  
Project Role: Statistician  
Research Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):  
Nearest person month worked: 0.48  
Contribution to Project: Oversee data analysis and data monitoring plan for vignette study.

*If the active support has changed for the PD/PI(s) or senior/key personnel, then describe what the change has been. Changes may occur, for example, if a previously active grant has closed and/or if a previously pending grant is now active. Annotate this information so it is clear what has changed from the previous submission. Submission of other support information is not necessary for pending changes or for changes in the level of effort for active support reported previously. The awarding agency may require prior written approval if a change in active other support significantly impacts the effort on the project that is the subject of the project report.*

Nothing to report.

### **What other organizations were involved as partners?**

*If there is nothing significant to report during this reporting period, state “Nothing to Report.”*

*Describe partner organizations – academic institutions, other nonprofits, industrial or commercial firms, state or local governments, schools or school systems, or other organizations (foreign or domestic) – that were involved with the project. Partner organizations may have provided financial or in-kind support, supplied facilities or equipment, collaborated in the research, exchanged personnel, or otherwise contributed.*

*Provide the following information for each partnership:*

Organization Name:

Location of Organization: (if foreign location list country)

Partner’s contribution to the project (identify one or more)

- *Financial support;*
- *In-kind support (e.g., partner makes software, computers, equipment, etc., available to project staff);*
- *Facilities (e.g., project staff use the partner’s facilities for project activities);*
- *Collaboration (e.g., partner’s staff work with project staff on the project);*
- *Personnel exchanges (e.g., project staff and/or partner’s staff use each other’s facilities, work at each other’s site); and*
- *Other.*

Nothing to report. Collaboration and subcontract award with Medical University of Innsbruck, Austria is pending.

## 8. SPECIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

**COLLABORATIVE AWARDS:** For collaborative awards, independent reports are required from BOTH the Initiating PI and the Collaborating/Partnering PI. A duplicative report is acceptable; however, tasks shall be clearly marked with the responsible PI and research site. A report shall be submitted to <https://ers.amedd.army.mil> for each unique award.

**QUAD CHARTS:** If applicable, the Quad Chart (available on <https://www.usamraa.army.mil>) should be updated and submitted with attachments.

# Psychosocial Predictors in VCA

Log Number: RT160066

Award Number: W81XWH-17-1-0400

PI: Simon Talbot, MD

Org: Brigham and Women's Hospital

Award Amount: \$1M



- Study/Product Aim(s)**
- Hand transplantation has moved from an experimental option for a few amputees to, at some institutions, the standard of care. This transition has occurred without a comprehensive analysis of the factors that contribute to the success or failure of these unique transplants. We believe that demographics, anatomic factors, medical comorbidities, social situations, psychiatric/psychological factors, therapy involvement, and logistical factors have a complex interplay to contribute to a good outcome. The objective of this study is to better delineate psychosocial factors associated with outcomes in this group of upper extremity transplant patients.

### Approach

- Specific Aim 1: To evaluate prospectively collected data on the International Registry of Hand and Composite Tissue Transplantation to determine variables associated with transplant "success"
- Specific Aim 2: To elucidate core factors involved in transplant success and failure utilizing qualitative research methods.
- Specific Aim 3: To develop a model, based on expert opinion, to help objectify the evaluations of hand transplant patients.

## Timeline and Cost

Activities	2017	2018	2019	2020
Evaluate prospectively collected data				
Qualitative assessment of core factors in transplant success and failure				
Develop model to objectify evaluations of transplant candidates				
Estimated Budget (\$K)	337	335	321	

Updated: 08/29/2018



Accomplishment: Collaboration with the IRHCTT to review and analyze de-identified upper extremity transplant data.

### Goals/Milestones

- CY17-18 Goal** – Evaluate data collected from IRHCTT to determine factors of transplant success
    - IRB and HRPO Approval
    - Obtain and analyze IRHCTT data
  - CY18-19 Goal** – Qualitative assessment of core factor
    - Focus group interviews
  - CY19-20 Goal** – Develop model to objective evaluation of hand transplant candidacy
    - Analyze qualitative data from interviews
    - Develop survey for clinical experts
    - Obtain survey results and analyze data from clinical experts
    - Determine statistical model and score to correlate with existing patients
- Comments/Challenges/Issues/Concerns: None
- Budget Expenditure to Date:  
Actual Expenditure: \$160,079

- 9. APPENDICES:** Attach all appendices that contain information that supplements, clarifies or supports the text. Examples include original copies of journal articles, reprints of manuscripts and abstracts, a curriculum vitae, patent applications, study questionnaires, and surveys, etc.

None.