

**Ava N. Rabbers, MPH, CPH**

Research Coordinator, School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences  
Morsani College of Medicine  
University of South Florida

(Updated June 2026)

**Education**

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL	MPH	2024	Epidemiology
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL	GCert	2024	Applied Biostatistics
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL	BS	2021	Biomedical Sciences

**Employment**

2025 – Present	Research Coordinator University of South Florida, School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences
2024	Graduate Research Assistant University of South Florida, College of Public Health
2023 – 2024	Public Health Intern BayCare Health System, BayCare Kids Wellness & Safety Center
2023 – 2024	Graduate Teaching Assistant University of South Florida, College of Public Health
2021 – 2023	Administrative Assistant Tierra, Inc. (A Certerra Company)

**Certifications and Licensure**

2025 –	Biomedical Responsible Conduct of Research, CITI Program
2025 –	Biomedical Investigators and Key Personnel, CITI Program
2024 –	Certified in Public Health, National Board of Public Health Examiners
2024	Safe Baby Training, Health Start Coalition of Hillsborough County

**Honors/Awards**

2024	<i>Summa Cum Laude</i> , University of South Florida
2021	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i> , University of South Florida
2019	<i>Florida Medallion Scholar</i> , Florida Department of Education

**Publications**

Journal Articles

Haladay D, **Rabbers A**, Morris Z, Ditwiler RE, Beckstead J, Miro R, Klein A. Goal attainment scaling for patients with chronic low back pain receiving physical therapy: a feasibility and

reliability study. *BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders*. May 2026. doi:10.1186/s12891-026-10033-6

Rijnhart JJM, **Rabbers A**, Rizzuto S, Howard AM, Valente MJ. An umbrella review reveals that control variables are rarely considered as a source of heterogeneity in systematic reviews of observational studies. *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*. Jun 2025:184. doi:10.1016/j.jclinepi.2025.111826

Rijnhart JJM, **Rabbers A**, Rizzuto S. Also long overdue: consideration of collider bias in guidelines and tools for systematic reviews and meta-analyses of observational studies. *International Journal of Epidemiology*. Nov 2024;53(6). doi:10.1093/ije/dyae147

## Under Review

### Journal Articles

Haladay D, Morris Z, **Rabbers A**, Miro R, Martinez-Tyson D. “Stealing my joy.” A qualitative study exploring ICF domains impacting patients with chronic low back pain (2026). *Journal of Bodywork & Movement Therapies*.

## Research Funding

### Pending

Haladay D (PI), **Rabbers A (Research Coordinator)**. *Enhancing Engagement and Outcomes in Physical Therapy for Patients with Chronic Low Back Pain: A Multi-site Pragmatic Cluster Randomized Trial of Goal Attainment Scaling (ENGAGE BACK)*. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Solicitation number: PA-24-154. Proposal number: GRANT14457416. Total project costs (incl F&A): \$1,598,130. Project period: 10/1/2026-09/30/2030.

## Community Service

2021 – 2023      High School Student Mentor  
                         Hillsborough Education Foundation, Tampa, FL