

COMMITMENT TO PERSON-CENTERED SERVICES HOD P06-18-36-41 [Position]

Whereas, The American Physical Therapy Association *Code of Ethics for the Physical Therapist* (Code) and *Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant* (Standards) address the responsibility to act respectfully toward each person regardless of age, gender, race, nationality, religion, ethnicity, social or economic status, sexual orientation, health condition, or disability (Principle 1A), as well as the responsibility to act in the best interests of patients and clients over the interests of the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant (Principle 2A);

Whereas, Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants are committed to practicing consistent with the Code and the Standards, ensuring that the best interests of the person remain at the center of physical therapist services;

Whereas, Denying services based on religious or personal objection may encourage health care professionals to shift from a person-centered focus to one aimed at the needs or beliefs of the provider;

Whereas, Shifting away from a person-centered model may result in harm to the health of individuals and populations; and,

Whereas, Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants have a duty to uphold the Code and the Standards;

Resolved, That The American Physical Therapy Association opposes efforts by government, institutions, and other entities that may threaten person-centeredness in the provision of physical therapist services.

Explanation of Reference Numbers:

HOD P00-00-00-00 stands for House of Delegates/**month**/**year**/**page**/**vote** in the House of Delegates minutes; the "P" indicates that it is a position (see below). For example, HOD P06-17-05-04 means that this position can be found in the June 2017 House of Delegates minutes on Page 5 and that it was Vote 4.

P: Position | S: Standard | G: Guideline | Y: Policy | R: Procedure