STRATEGIC PLAN TO ADDRESS REFERRAL FOR PROFIT, INCLUDING PHYSICIAN OWNERSHIP OF PHYSICAL THERAPY SERVICES BOD 03-06-11-22 [Retitled: Strategic Plan to Address Physician Owned Physical Therapy Services (POPTS); Amended BOD 09-05-01-01; BOD 11-03-06-15]

GOAL I: Gather Evidence of the Harmful Effects of Referral for Profit, including POPTS Arrangements

Objective 1: Identify the impact of referral for profit, including physician owned physical therapy services (POPTS) on various physical therapy practice settings with a follow-up survey on other APTA members.

Objective 2: Design and distribute instruments to chapters for improved data collection on referral for profit, including POPTS related experiences of patients and physical therapists.

GOAL II: Educate and Increase the Awareness of Physical Therapists Regarding the Importance of the Autonomy of the Profession Across All Practice Settings

Objective 1: Develop and distribute educational material to physical therapists on the potentially harmful effects of referral for profit, including POPTS in all practice settings.

Objective 2: Develop activities and projects that convey the message that POPTS is an unnecessary hindrance to the attainment of APTA’s Vision 2020.

Objective 3: Create and promote educational resources related to referral for profit, including POPTS for PT program administrators, educators, and students.

Objective 4: Develop and make available to chapters outreach materials for physical therapists currently employed in POPTS settings.

GOAL III: Identify and Implement Opportunities for Joint Activities with Other Health Care Providers

Objective 1: Initiate outreach to and discussion with other health care providers who are experiencing similar concerns with referral for profit, including physician ownership.

Objective 2: Coordinate with state Chapters on local outreach activities with other health care providers.

GOAL IV: Educate the Public and Key Opinion Shapers on the Impact of Referral for Profit, including POPTS Specific to the Cost to the Health Care System and the Limitation of Consumer Choice

Objective 1: Develop resources and initiate focused activities to inform the public, the press, and other key opinion shapers about and referral for profit, including POPTS arrangements.

GOAL V: Promote and Implement Statutory Changes to Prevent Referral for Profit, including Physician Ownership of Physical Therapy Services

Objective 1: Coordinate with APTA Chapters in a focused review of state corporate and professional acts.

Objective 2: Seek opportunities to increase federal requirements that apply to physician owned physical therapy services.

Objective 3: Promote and implement state statutory and regulatory model language and options to prevent referral for profit, including physician ownership of physical therapy services.
Objective 4: Develop guidelines and resource materials for efficient and effective operation of component leadership and task forces related to referral for profit, including POPTS prohibitions.

(Payment Policy and Advocacy Department, ext 8511)

Explanation of Reference Numbers:
BOD P00-00-00-00 stands for Board of Directors/month/year/page/vote in the Board of Directors Minutes; the "P" indicates that it is a position (see below). For example, BOD P11-97-06-18 means that this position can be found in the November 1997 Board of Directors minutes on Page 6 and that it was Vote 18.