

THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST'S ROLE IN MANAGEMENT OF THE PERSON WITH CONCUSSION HOD P06-12-12-10
[Amended HOD P06-11-15-18] [Position]

Concussions have a significant impact on the health of individuals and society. The American Physical Therapy Association recognizes that physical therapists are part of the multidisciplinary team of licensed health care providers that provides concussion management, which includes:

- education and prevention to minimize risk and increase awareness; and,
- examination and evaluation to establish a diagnosis, treatment through implementation of a plan of care, monitoring of progress, and making return to participation decisions by using best available evidence and standards of care.

An individual suspected of having a head injury and/or who has signs, symptoms, and behaviors of concussion should be immediately assessed for concussion by a licensed health care provider who is trained in the evaluation and management of concussion, and, if applicable, the individual should be immediately removed from participation in organized activity. The individual should not return to:

- organized activity until he or she receives written clearance for return to participation from a physical therapist or other licensed health care provider who is trained in the evaluation and management of concussion.
- selected activities involving physical or cognitive exertion unless a physical therapist or other licensed health care provider who is trained in the management of concussion has determined he or she should return to such activities.

Relationship to Vision 2020: Professionalism (State Gov't Affairs Department, ext 8533)

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.

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