



LEVELS OF SUPERVISION HOD P06-00-15-26 [Position]

The American Physical Therapy Association recognizes the following levels of supervision:

General Supervision: The physical therapist is not required to be on site for direction and supervision, but must be available at least by telecommunications.

Direct Supervision: The physical therapist is physically present and immediately available for direction and supervision. The physical therapist will have direct contact with the patient/client during each visit that is defined in the *Guide to Physical Therapist Practice* as all encounters with a patient/client in a 24-hour period. Telecommunications does not meet the requirement of direct supervision.

Direct Personal Supervision: The physical therapist or, where allowable by law, the physical therapist assistant is physically present and immediately available to direct and supervise tasks that are related to patient/client management. The direction and supervision is continuous throughout the time these tasks are performed. Telecommunications does not meet the requirement of direct personal supervision.

Relationship to Vision 2020: Professionalism; (Practice Department, ext 3176)

[Document updated: 12/14/2009]

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