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Contact: nationalgovernance@apta.org

THE ASSOCIATION'S ROLE IN ADVOCACY FOR PREVENTION, WELLNESS, FITNESS, HEALTH PROMOTION, AND MANAGEMENT OF DISEASE AND DISABILITY HOD P06-17-06-05 [Amended HOD P06-16-05-06; Initial: HOD P06-15-22-14] [Position]

The American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) advocates for prevention, wellness, fitness, health promotion, and management of disease and disability.

Advocacy includes but is not limited to scientific, educational, regulatory, and legislative activities that promote regular physical activity and exercise to enhance health and prevent disease. It includes developing collaborative, interprofessional and partnering relationships with health care and community organizations and individuals that advocate for prevention, wellness, fitness, health promotion, and management of disease and disability.

Priorities for association advocacy include, but are not limited to:

- Collaborative relationships that have the potential to advance the vision for the physical therapy profession and leverage efforts to develop and implement effective population health management strategies
- Appropriate physical activity and exercise goals and objectives put forth by government and other nationally recognized agencies and organizations
- Appropriate efforts that enhance community design to promote safe physical activity and active forms of transportation for individuals and populations of all ages and abilities
- Consumer recognition of the value of the physical therapist to provide services for prevention, wellness, fitness, and health promotion, and for management of disease and disability for all populations and conditions
- Physical education, physical conditioning, and wellness instruction at all levels of education, from preschool through higher education
- Physical therapists making healthy personal lifestyle choices that include engaging in active forms of transportation and meeting national guidelines for participation in physical activity and exercise

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