GUIDELINES: AMERICAN BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY SPECIALITIES (ABPTS) BOD G09-14-02-03 [Amended BOD G10-09-07-14; BOD G07-08-02-02; BOD G11-06-06-06; G11-05-27-72; BOD G03-05-19-53; BOD 03-03-18-46; BOD 03-00-34-93] [Guideline]

(11 members: 8 individuals appointed by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties for 4-year terms, 1 consumer representative appointed by the ABPTS for a 2-year term, 1 public member appointed by the ABPTS for a 2-year term, and 1 tests and measurement expert appointed by the ABPTS for a 2-year term. A member of the APTA BOD appointed by the APTA BOD serves as a non-voting liaison to ABPTS with a 1-year term)

Meetings: One 3-day meeting and one 2-day meeting annually at headquarters and additional teleconference meetings as needed.

Purpose: To promote and provide for the certification of clinical specialists in physical therapy.

Tasks:
1. Provide an efficient and credible system for the evaluation, certification, and recertification of physical therapy specialty areas of practice.
2. Provide formal recognition by the Association of individuals certified as clinical specialists.
3. Increase the number of board-certified physical therapists, including increased representation of racial and ethnic minority groups.
5. Foster retention of board-certified specialists.
6. Identify the barriers and opportunities to achievement of Vision 2020.

Work other than at meetings: Reviews petitions for the formation of specialty areas, provides consultation to approved specialty counsels, maintains informational contacts with members as well as other organizations and associations regarding the specialization process, and undertakes other projects as needed to maintain and improve the certification program. Time spent varies from 10 to 15 days exclusive of meetings.

Qualifications: The 11-member American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties is composed of: 8 physical therapists each representing a specialty area; 1 individual with expertise in education and evaluation; 1 public member; and 1 consumer representative. A member of APTA Board of Directors serves as a non-voting liaison.

(Residency/Fellowship & Special Certification Department, ext 8520)

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.