

Access to Physical Therapists as Entry-Point Practitioners For Activity Participation, Wellness, Health, And Disability Determination



HOD P08-22-12-14 [Position]

The American Physical Therapy Association supports unrestricted access to physical therapists as entry-point practitioners for activity participation, wellness, health, and disability determination.

Physical therapists make unique contributions to the health care system and participation in society. Physical therapists, as part of a comprehensive management plan:

- Deliver a broad range of services including, but not limited to, examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, intervention, coordination of care, prevention, wellness, and referral to other health care practitioners when indicated.
- Identify the cause and/or nature of an individual's injuries, symptoms, emergent conditions, impairments, activity limitations, participation restrictions, biopsychosocial factors, environmental barriers, and facilitators.
- Render diagnoses, using relevant diagnostic tests and classification labels.
- Determine an individual's functioning and extent of physical disability in all aspects of life (such as health, recreation, employment, daily living, and transportation) and for regulatory, insurance, and legal purposes.
- Prescribe or recommend physical activity, accommodations, adaptive and assistive technology, diagnostic tests, and other interventions to optimize functioning and participation in society.

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.

E: Binding Ethical Document | P: Position | Y: Policy

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