

AUTONOMOUS PHYSICAL THERAPIST PRACTICE HOD P06-06-18-12 [Position]

Physical therapists have the responsibility to practice autonomously in all settings, practice environments, and employment relationships. Autonomous physical therapist practice is characterized by:

- Independent, self determined professional judgment within one's scope of practice, consistent with the profession's Codes and Standards and in the patient's/client's best interest
- Responsibility and acceptance of risk for all aspects of the physical therapist patient/client management
- Ability to refer to and collaborate with health care providers and others to enhance the physical therapist patient/client management
- Recognition of circumstances that necessitate a request for consultation and initiation of such consultation when in the best interest of the patient/client
- Clinical decision making that is independent of external financial considerations
- Physical therapist governance and control of physical therapy practice in all settings

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

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