



**GUIDELINES: PRINCIPLES OF PROFESSIONALISM GUIDING PHYSICAL THERAPIST BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS HOD G06-10-12-10 [Guidelines]**

Whereas, Future compensation, practice ownership and employment opportunities will expand and change as the physical therapist profession achieves APTA Vision Statement for Physical Therapy 2020; and,

Whereas, Physical therapists should uphold best practice principles in their professional and business arrangements, just as they should in their clinical practice;

Resolved, That the following principles will promote best practices in business and professional relationships and arrangements in connection with physical therapist practice:

- **Autonomy:** Physical therapists shall have control over all clinical decisions relating to physical therapy.
- **Integrity:** Business relationships shall be free of avoidable conflicts of interest and comply with all American Physical Therapy Association positions, standards, guidelines, policies, and procedures.
- **Equity:** Physical therapist ownership should be proportional to investment and shared risk.
- **Incentive:** Physical therapists should be compensated based on the value of their services, which may be measured through components such as quantity, quality, and complexity.

Relationship to Vision 2020: Autonomous Practice; Direct Access; Practitioner of Choice; Doctor of Physical Therapy; Evidence Based Practice; Professionalism; (Practice Department, ext 8594)

[Document updated: 02/03/2011]

**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