

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO THE MEMBERSHIP

By Gregory Waite

Hello everyone, I hope you're enjoying the beautiful colors of fall; get ready though, we know the snow comes next...Brrrrr! No need to worry though, regardless of the season or the weather conditions, we at the PPTA are working hard for our members and the patients we serve every day. In the next few paragraphs I'll discuss some of the issues we've been working on over the past several months and some plans for the future.

One of the big issues most of us deal with is the ever changing environment of Medicare reimbursement and documentation. One important change is the current decreases in reimbursement, in whatever form, and the proposed changes moving from the current Fee-for-Service payment structure. At this time, at the request of CMS, the APTA, along with other stakeholders, have been developing alternatives to the Fee-for-Service system. One change which will be initiated in January 2017 is a three-tiered coding system for evaluation based on the severity of the patient being evaluated. For the remainder of the payment structure, APTA has asserted several proposed per visit payment systems which have been presented to CMS; however, no decision has been made. In addition to APTA's proposals, CMS is also reviewing several possible systems for payment and documentation.

A good example of a payment structure under review is the current pilot study for total hip and knee replacements. This system utilizes a bundled payment provided to a gate keeper for the entire group of providers involved in an episode of care. This system is presently being piloted in the Pittsburgh and Harrisburg regions in Pennsylvania as well as many other areas throughout the United States. It should be understood that the current Fee-for-Service structure will be replaced by a more cost-effective, outcomes based system; it's just not decided what will eventually replace the current system. We feel our Association, in conjunction with other stakeholders, are uniquely qualified to develop an equitable payment structure which will decrease inappropriate billing, provide governmental agencies with the outcomes measures they seek, while still allowing providers the means to remain fiscally sound.

Looking more on the State level, Highmark is a never ending problematic insurer which is growing rapidly throughout Pennsylvania. In March of this year a blast was sent to the membership highlighting current issues the Association is having with Highmark and what we, as an Association, are doing to combat these egregious attempts to circumvent current law, rules and regulations. The newest attack by Highmark has come in their demands to providers to reimburse them for any services provided which surpassed an arbitrary 4-unit cap placed on treatment. This was a previously unenforced policy initiated in 2012 which was combated successfully by the PPTA at that time. In the end, according to an alert sent out by Highmark, they indicated they would not automatically enforce the 4-unit cap but would retain the ability to undertake retroactive review of charts to determine if surpassing the arbitrary 4-unit cap was medically necessary. The present assault on providers simply requires mass repayment to Highmark for all patient services going over the 4-unit cap without regard to medical necessity. Obviously we are addressing this and many issues concerning Highmark by working with the PID, DOH, and our legislators. We will keep you informed as this develops.

Another area the Board has undertaken is changes to the practice act. The Practice Act Work Group, or PAWG, was assigned the task of developing possible changes to the practice act and presenting their findings to the Board. Some of the topics discussed during the PAWG meetings were expanding direct access, permitting dry needling, allowing prescription of imaging, and telehealth. The Board evaluated the report carefully and, in the end, it was determined expansion of Direct Access for Physical Therapists would be the best issue to bring forward via a direct practice act change. The other items mentioned above are also being considered; however, we are looking at developing these items separately from a regulatory perspective rather than a direct change to the practice act. This was decided as the practice act is silent on these issues and a regulatory change may be a more efficient route for these proposals.

During the Spring Board Meeting, revisions to the PPTA Strategic Plan for 2016 were approved. These revisions included removing actionable items which have been completed and developing new items which will move us toward our 5 year goals. The most recent addition to the Strategic Plan were sequential steps, with timelines and accountable committees, required to complete the goal of making the above noted changes to the practice act. As we move forward toward this goal you may be called on to take some type of action; please help your Association meet this important milestone by assisting when that call comes.

Legislatively, HB 1178, the Retroactive Review Bill, is a piece of legislation which has gained some traction over the past several months. Previously, an insurer could retroactively go back as far as they chose in order to obtain reimbursement for billing errors. This could be a tremendous burden on a provider if they had mistakenly utilized a code in error; under the current law they would be obligated to reimburse the insurer as far back as the insurer chose. HB 1178 is an attempt to curtail that retroactive review period to 12 months as written in the original language of the bill. Several amendments have been proposed concerning the look back time period and definitions within the bill; however, at the time of production of this newsletter, no decision had been made concerning final language for the bill. It is the hope of the PPTA and other stakeholders that this bill will move through the House and Senate and come before the Governor for signature before the end of this legislative session; however, this is at the will of the Legislators.

As always, these are just a few of the issues and projects we have been working on over the past several months and the direction we are moving for the future. If there was a particular project or issue I did not discuss, please feel free to contact me or the Chapter office directly and we will be glad to provide you with information. Thank-you for your continued support as members of the APTA and PPTA. Remember, we are here to provide progressive leadership for our members and advocate for the rights of our patients.

CHIEF DELEGATE

By Robin Dole

Attention all Members!!! Do I have your attention? I hope so! As YOUR chief delegate, it is my pleasure to help keep you informed about APTA and PPTA governance issues. The main issue on our calendar this fall is the vote that will occur at the annual business meeting and that will be the topic of this article.

Bylaws Amendment Vote at the Chapter Meeting in Lancaster

For those that attended our chapter meeting last year in Seven Springs, you are aware that we had a bylaw amendment proposed that would allow a full vote for PTAs at the chapter level. This would essentially impact a PTAs ability to vote during elections and meetings that relate to PPTA business at the chapter and district level. Due to issues related to obtaining and sustaining a quorum, we were not able to complete the vote. I want you to be aware that we will bring that motion again this October in Lancaster and encourage you all to attend. Here are some important things to consider:

- 1) ***What is a bylaws amendment?*** The chapter bylaws outline the way we do business at the PPTA. Our bylaws must be in compliance with the APTA. From time to time, we may seek to amend those bylaws within the limitations of what is and is not possible given the APTA bylaws. When the APTA bylaws were amended by the House of Delegates to allow components the option to assign a full vote (rather than the current ½ vote) to PTAs, the Chapter Board of Directors felt it was important to bring this to our membership. To change our bylaws, we must follow certain rules including having a quorum (3% of the membership).
- 2) ***Who can vote?*** All PT and PTA members can vote. Students, however, are not able to vote at the chapter meeting or in elections. Currently PTAs have a ½ vote and would have such a vote at the time we entertain a potential bylaws amendment. You do not have to have registered for the Annual Conference to vote. Any member can attend the business meeting that we will hold in Lancaster and we encourage you to come! To vote you must be “present” at the meeting and for the first time we are exploring allowing members to be “present” electronically through GoToWebinar.

3) If you have not already received information about these potential plans, please consult the PPTA website, review your past emails from PPTA, or contact the Chapter office or myself (rldole@widener.edu). If you want the opportunity to attend via GoToWebinar, more details will be provided and you will need to pre-register by a specified date so that we can plan accordingly.

4) *What exactly are we voting on?* The language of the amendment is here for your review (the areas underlined represent the added/new language). This newsletter is part of the official notice given to you at least 30 days in advance of the meeting where the vote will take place. The language is also available online and you should have received communication via email as well. You will also be able to learn more about this vote through other avenues that will be provided as we prepare for the meeting. Be sure to consult the PPTA webpage, review emails from the Chapter, and connect with your district colleagues.

ARTICLE IV.

SECTION 1. CATEGORIES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS.

The Chapter membership categories and qualifications for Physical Therapist, Retired Physical Therapist, Life Physical Therapist, Student Physical Therapist, Physical Therapist Assistant, Retired Physical Therapist Assistant, Life Physical Therapist Assistant, and Student Physical Therapist Assistant shall be the same as those of the Association. In addition, the Chapter shall maintain a single Corresponding Member category and a single Corresponding Student Member category with rights and privileges as stated in the Association bylaws.

SECTION 2. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS.

The rights and privileges of the Chapter 's members shall be identical to those established in the Association bylaws.

All Physical Therapist, Retired Physical Therapist, Life Physical Therapist, Physical Therapist Assistant, Retired Physical Therapist Assistant, Life Physical Therapist Assistant shall have 1 vote within the chapter.

Thanks as always for your support and your membership!

MEET THE CANDIDATES

The 2017 election for PPTA Secretary, Nominating Committee Member and PTA Caucus Representative will take place immediately following the Annual Membership Meeting. The Nominating Committee has selected excellent candidates for this position. After taking nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting, the slate of nominees must be approved by the PPTA Membership.

The Nominating Committee urges all members to read the biographies and to give careful consideration to the election of these positions.

SECRETARY CANDIDATE

Jane Oeffner, PT, DPT, MBA

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBER CANDIDATES

Jamila Aberdeen, PT, DPT, OCS

Douglas Covatch, PT, DPT

Susan Gerhard, PT, DPT

Marci Ruediger, PT

Matthew Senese, PT, DPT

Brendan Sullivan, PT, MSPT, OCS

PTA CAUCUS REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATE

Rebecca Stevens, PTA

Please check your email and www.ppta.org for your e-voting information in this important election!

CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY

NAME:

Jane Oeffner, PT, DPT, MBA

HOME ADDRESS:

16 Rose Hill Road
Media, PA 19063

EMPLOYMENT:

Manager, Inpatient Therapy Services (October 2015 to present)
Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital, Main Line Health, Malvern, PA

EDUCATION:

Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA
Post Professional Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) – 2005

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA
MBA in Health Administration – 1990

University of Delaware, Newark, NJ
BS in Arts and Science, Certificate of Proficiency in Physical Therapy - 1986

PPTA ACTIVITIES:

- Board of Directors, PPTA, Secretary (January 2014 to present)
- Nominating Committee, Southeast District (Member, 2006; Chair 2007-2008)
- PAC Chairperson, Southeast District (1997-2001)
- Treasurer, Southeast District (1994-2000)
- Program Committee, Southeast District (Member 1987-89; 1991-93)

APTA ACTIVITIES:

- House of Delegates, PA Chapter (Elected Delegate, 1994, 1996-98, 2000-01, 2005, 2007-2016)
- Public Relations and Marketing (Brand Champion, 2010-12)
- Oncology Section, HIV Special Interest Group (Secretary, 1997-2000)
- Education Section, Clinical Education SIG (Member, 1989-2001) and Academic Administrators SIG (Member, 2001-2004)
- Clinical Instructor Education and Credentialing Program, (Certified Trainer and Clinical Instructor, 1997-2003)
- Coalition for Consensus: Conference on Clinical Education, (Invited Consultant, 1997)
- IMPACT: Regional Conference on Developing Agreement on Content of Post Baccalaureate Entry-Level Curricula, (Participant, 1992)

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

- Trainer, Health Communities Initiative Parenting Partners Program, 2011-2015
- Girl Scout Leader, Troop #51287, 2005-2010
- Swim Team Manager, Springhaven Country Club, 2005-2010
- Bingo Night Chairperson, Media Elementary, 2007-2010
- Secretary, Media Elementary Parent-Teacher Group, 2007-2008

CANDIDATES FOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

NAME:

Jamila Aberdeen, PT, DPT, OCS

HOME ADDRESS:

100 Parker Avenue, Unit 51
Philadelphia, PA 19128

EMPLOYMENT:

(current) Physical Therapist III, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

EDUCATION:

Temple University (2004-2007), Doctorate of Physical Therapy
Morgan State University (2000-2004), Bachelor of Science (Hons) Biology

PPTA ACTIVITIES:

None

APTA ACTIVITIES:

Application submitted to serve as volunteer (unsuccessful)

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Annual participation in Athlete Health Organization Screening
Guest speaker at Temple University Pre-Physical Therapy association
Adjunct Faculty at Arcadia University
Guest lecturer (Gait analysis) Temple University Occupational Therapy
Department

NAME:

Douglas Covatch

HOME ADDRESS:

102 Ash Lane
Punxsutawney, PA 15767

EMPLOYMENT:

Staff Physical Therapist at Punxsutawney Area Hospital, Punxsutawney, PA

EDUCATION:

Temple University (2007-2009) Doctor of Physical Therapy
West Virginia University (2004-2005) Master of Physical Therapy
West Virginia University (1998-2004) Applied Exercise and Health, Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Human Performance and Health

PPTA ACTIVITIES:

PPTA Member
PPTA Legislation Action Network Liaison (PA House District 66)

APTA ACTIVITIES:

APTA Member
Orthopedic Section Member
NOPTOD Neck Pain Pilot Project participant
APTA Credentialed Clinical Instructor

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Penn State University-DuBois Campus PTA Program Advisory Board Member
Little League Baseball Coach
Local Elementary School PTO Member

NAME:

Susan Gerhard

HOME ADDRESS:

487 Pine Ridge Circle
Lewisberry, PA 17339

EMPLOYMENT:

Self-employed – “transforming society through lifelong learning and moving in each person’s most natural environment”;

Leading the Physical Therapy Profession to educate the public regarding the value of moving and learning

Contract employee with multiple companies

EDUCATION:

BS Beaver College (1988)
DPT Arcadia University (2007)

PPTA ACTIVITIES:

Delegate 2013 to present
Alternate Delegate 2012
Finance Committee
Liaison to Department of Aging
CONNECTPA!
SCD Membership Committee
Conference Program Committee
PAC
LAN

APTA ACTIVITIES:

House of Delegates

-Salt Lake City

-Charlotte

-National Harbor

-Nashville

Women's Health SIG CSM program review

Women's Health Section Member

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Weight Watchers Leader/Receptionist

Yoga Instructor

Farm Show Volunteer

Valley Grange Volunteer

Dairymen's Association Volunteer

Church Sunday School Teacher

NAME: Marci Ruediger, PT

HOME ADDRESS:

101 Greensward Lane
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

PRESENT EMPLOYMENT:

Magee Rehabilitation, Philadelphia, PA

- Director of Performance Excellence
- Project Director SCI Medical Home

CARF International – Surveyor, Medical Rehab Division

Arcadia University DPT Program - Adjunct faculty

EDUCATION:

New England College

M.S. Management with concentration in Health Administration, 2011

Temple University

Philadelphia, PA.

B.S. Physical Therapy, 1982

PPTA ACTIVITIES:

Abstract reviewer for PPTA annual conference 2015- current

Member, work group to promote the utilization of the clinical practice expert pool within the Chapter, 2015.

Member PPTA Conference and Continuing Education Committee Educational Program Work group, 2014. Facilitated the Geriatric sub-group to develop list of potential speakers

APTA ACTIVITIES:

APTA/PPTA member 1982 - present

Student member 1980 - 1982

APTA Neurology section member 1988 - present.

APTA HPA section member 2000 – Present

APTA Credentialed Clinical Trainer 1998- 2004

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Abstract reviewer for Healthcare Improvement Foundation Annual Safety Awards,
2011 – current

Member, Advisory Committee for EQUADR (Rehabilitation benchmarking group),
2013 – current

Member, Planning Committee for 2015 PA Patient Safety and Quality Symposium

NAME:

Brendan M. Sullivan, PT, MSPT, OCS

HOME ADDRESS:

105 Stockton Square
Pottstown, PA 19465

EMPLOYMENT:

Lead Physical Therapist, Penn Medicine Chester County Hospital, Fern Hill Office,
West Chester, PA October 2006 to Present

Per Diem Physical Therapist, Neighborhood Visiting Nurses Association, West
Chester, PA December 2006 to Present

Contract Physical Therapist, General Healthcare Resources, October 2008 to
Present

Physical Therapist, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, Baumholder
Germany (deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom) September 2005 to September
2006

Assistant Chief, Physical Therapy, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Landstuhl,
Germany May 2003 to September 2005

Chief, Physical Therapy DiLorenzo TRICARE Health Clinic, Pentagon,
Washington D.C. August 2001 to May 2003

Chief, Outpatient Physical Therapy Section, Walter Reed Army Medical Center,
Washington D.C. July 2000 to August 2001

Chief, Inpatient Physical Therapy Section, Walter Reed Army Medical Center,
Washington D.C. January 2000 to July 2000

Assistant Chief, Physical Therapy, Wuerzburg Army Medical Activity,
Wuerzburg, Germany July 1999 to January 2000 (Temporary Duty)

Staff Physical Therapist, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C.
October 1998 to July 1999

EDUCATION:

BS, Health Studies, Boston University 1996
MS, Physical Therapy, Boston University 1998
APTA Orthopedic Certified Specialist, 2003, recertified 2013

PPTA ACTIVITIES:

None

APTA ACTIVITIES:

None

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Athlete Health Organization, 2016
Member, Cecil College PTA Advisory Board, 2014-present
Member, Philadelphia Area Clinical Education Consortium Professional Advisory Group, 2012-present
Travel Coordinator, Coventry Soccer Association, 2014-Present Coach,
Coventry Soccer Association, 2007-Present
Volunteer Trainer, Ramstein American High School (Football, Wrestling), 2004-2005

NAME:

Matthew T. Senese

HOME ADDRESS:

243 Andover Road
Fairless Hills, PA

EDUCATION:

Arcadia University	Glenside, PA
Orthopaedic Clinical Residency	July 2013 — January 2015
Arcadia University	Glenside, PA
Doctorate of Physical Therapy	August 2010 - January 2013
Arcadia University	Glenside, PA
Bachelor of Arts in Biology	September 2006 - May 2010

CERTIFICATIONS:

Orthopaedic Certified Specialist	
American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties	June 2015
Musculoskeletal Certificate	
Arcadia University	July 2014

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia — Sports Medicine & Performance
Center Chalfont, PA
Staff Physical Therapist November 2015 —present

- Provided examination and intervention techniques to a pediatric population with focus on sports medicine and orthopaedic related impairments and activity limitations.

Arcadia University Glenside, PA
Adjunct Professor November 2013 - present

- Utilized experience as a clinician to educate physical therapy students in specific manual techniques, principles of strength training, therapeutic taping, modalities and gait/functional movement assessment following musculoskeletal injury.

NovaCare Rehabilitation
Staff Physical Therapist
Yardley, PA
May 2014 — November 2015

- Incorporated effective differential diagnosis and selective treatment planning to optimize functional recovery for patients seeking physical therapy evaluation and treatment.

Comprehensive Sports Care Specialists
Staff Physical Therapist
Warminster, PA
February 2013 — May 2014

- Supplied physical therapy services for individuals primarily with sport and orthopaedic conditions.

Arcadia University
Teaching Assistant
Glenside, PA
November 2011 -May 2012

- Mentored physical therapy students in regards to physical therapy examination skills while enrolled in the Doctor of Physical Therapy curriculum.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

American Physical Therapy Association — PTNow Publication
Co-author of 'Adhesive Capsulitis ' Clinical Summary
February 2016

- Contributed to peer-reviewed publication of 'Adhesive Capsulitis' to the American Physical Therapy Association clinical database based on recently published evidence based literature.

Arcadia University
Student Research Assistant
Glenside, PA
September 2011 -January 2013

- Participated in the data collection and interpretation of the voluntary activation of the infraspinatus muscle in healthy adults which was presented at a national conference.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:

Medical Screening Lab at Arcadia University
Laboratory Instructor/Mediator
Glenside, PA
March 13, 2016

- Instructed physical therapy professionals attending a 'Medical Screening' continuing education course at Arcadia University on clinical tests and skills to support decision making regarding indications for further medical referral.

3B Sports Medicine Journal Club
Research Presenter and Attendee
Philadelphia, PA
September 2013 — March 2016

CANDIDATE FOR PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT CAUCUS REPRESENTATIVE

NAME:

Rebecca Stevens, PTA

HOME ADDRESS:

419 Division Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15202

EMPLOYMENT:

Community College of Allegheny County (Adjunct Professor)
Anchor Physical Therapy (PTA)

EDUCATION:

- *Indiana University of Pennsylvania (MA Adult & Community Education 2017)
- Community College of Allegheny County (AS PTA 2014, Certificate Massage Therapy 2013, AS General 2015)
- Duquesne University (BA Theater Arts 2001, BA English 2001)

PPTA ACTIVITIES:

- PA PTA Caucus Alternate Representative 2016
- ConnectPA! 2015-present
- SWD Membership Chair 2016-2017
- SWD Membership Co-Chair 2015-2016
- Volunteer at SWD district meetings, SWD mini-combined sections, and PPTA Annual Conference since 2013
- PTA student liaison to the SWD board 2012-2014
- Student Leadership Award 2014

APTA ACTIVITIES:

- PA PTA Caucus Alternate Representative 2016
- Student usher for the House of Delegates 2014

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

- Newman Civic Fellow, awarded 2014
- PT Day of Service 2015
- Community College of Allegheny County Physical Therapist Assistant Advisory Board 2012-present
- Participates in several annual community service activities including Boy Scouts of America Scouting for Food, Shoes4Kids, Pink Feet Race for the Cure, and Pittsburgh Community Food Bank.

DISTRICT NEWS

NORTHCENTRAL

By Kathryn Robinholt, District Member

Golf Tournament!

WHEN: Saturday, August 27th, 2016 at 8:30 AM

WHERE: White Deer Golf Course, 352 Allenwood Camp Lane, Montgomery PA 17752

COST: \$60 per golfer (prior to 8/22/16), \$75 per golfer after 8/22/16, includes golf, lunch, and prizes!

For further information, please contact: Don Shipe at (570)847-6389 or donaldshipe@gmail.com

Wine Tour!

WHEN: Saturday, October 15th, 2016

WHERE: Seneca Lake, pick up locations in Lewisburg (7 am) and Mansfield (immediately following)

COST: \$90/per person, registration includes transportation and 4 winery visits with tastings

For further information, please contact: Don Shipe at (570)847-6389 or donaldshipe@gmail.com

Upcoming fall meetings:

September:

Date: Thursday September 22nd

Time: 6 pm open house, 7pm presentation

Location: Penn College, Williamsport, PA

Speaker/Presentation: Dr. Hoffman, TBD

October:

Date: Thursday October 13th

Time: 7 pm

Location: Woodbine Clinic, Danville, PA

Speaker/Presentation: TBD

November:

Date: Thursday November 10th

TBD

Don't forget to like us on Facebook! (NCD PPTA)

COMING IN 2017!!!! Please be on the look-out for further information on a one day Continuing Education course presented by our district with location, topic, and date TBD!

NORTHEAST

By Elizabeth Troese, District Director

This year is jam packed with education, networking events, volunteering events, Baseball Day and elections!

NED PPTA Members and Friends Baseball Day on September 3, 2016!

If you enjoy going to the Iron Pigs (Lehigh Valley) or Rail Riders (Scranton area) then purchase your tickets early!

The NED PPTA is pre-purchasing tickets for those interested with the group rate of \$10 (a discount!)

This is a limited time offer so don't miss out. We will pre-purchase your tickets and send you a link for payment. There will be Lehigh Valley and Scranton area ticket pick-ups this summer.

It's that easy! Visit the website to pre-order tickets today!

<http://ppta.org/Districts/Northeast.aspx>

Global PT Day of Service (October 15, 2016)

The Northeast District of the PPTA is excited to be a part of this special day! The PT Day of Service is about (via their webpage): "Treating at a pro bono clinic. Working in a soup kitchen. Cleaning up a park. No matter where or how, we have the ability to positively impact change. Whether we call ourselves 'Physical Therapists' or 'Physiotherapists,' service embodies who we are, what we do, and how we act. Become a part of PT Day of Service as we join together to better the world! " Please visit our webpage for updates on how to get involved (<http://ppta.org/Districts/Northeast.aspx>). Visit the Global PT Day of Service to see what it is all about (<http://ptdayofservice.com/>). Make sure to submit your name if interested to NED Officers or via the webpage, as an event is generated.

Fall 2016 Northeast District Monthly Meetings and Continuing Education

Offerings:

(see website of information updates)

SEPTEMBER

Date: Tuesday September 13, 2016

Time: 6:30pm Networking; 7pm Meeting

Sponsor: LCCC PTA Program

Location: Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC); 4525 Education Park Drive;

Schnecksville, PA 18078 (Link for directions:

http://gocougarsports.com/sports/2015/5/28/GEN_0528154401.aspx)

Presentation: Hospital Acquired Deconditioning

Speakers: Colleen Chancellor

OCTOBER

Date: Tuesday October 11, 2016

Time: 6:30pm Networking; 7pm Meeting

Sponsor: St. Luke's Acute Rehab Center

Location: **St. Luke's Hospital-Bethlehem Campus; Education Center**; 801 Ostrum St; Bethlehem, PA 18015

Presentation: Dizziness and Vestibular Rehab in an Inpatient Setting

Speakers: Jennifer McKenna and John Danchak

Contact: Michelle Cardinale

NOVEMBER

Date: Tuesday November 8, 2016

Time: 6:30pm Networking; 7pm Meeting

Sponsor: **Physical Therapy at St. Luke's (outpatient)**

Location: St. Luke's Hospital; Stroudsburg, PA (exact location of new hospital TBA)

Presentation: TBA

Speakers: TBA

Contact: Alissa Heffner

PPTA Annual Conference 2016: Lancaster PA

Dates: Friday, October 28, 2016 - Sunday, October 30, 2016

Registration **OPEN NOW!!!!!!** --Earn 14 contact hours!

Check out registration information here:

<http://ppta.org/ProfessionalDevelopment/2016-ppta-annual-conference>

The Northeast District is sponsoring State Policy & Payment Forum Scholarships this year!

The Northeast District awarded (3)-\$500 scholarships to the following individuals, to attend the 2016 APTA State Policy and Payment Forum, on September 17-18, 2016 (Pittsburgh, PA).

James Ritter, DeSales University

Dayna Ehlers, Misericordia University

Jacqueline Kochmer, Misericordia University

This event is designed to increase involvement and knowledge of state legislative issues that have an impact on the practice and payment of physical therapy, and to improve advocacy efforts at the state level. It is an opportunity to collaborate with colleagues and other professionals from across the country and listen to influential public policy makers and physical therapy advocates. These three individuals will give an update on their experience after our NED October 2016 monthly meeting.

Northeast District PPTA Officer Elections for 2016 :

Delegates, Treasurer and Secretary NED Officer positions will be opening on December 31, 2016. Elections are currently open (until August 8, 2016). Please go to the webpage NOW to view the slate of candidates and cast your vote: http://voting.ppta.org/ne_ballot/. We appreciate your consideration!

Northeast District Members, now is the time to see if YOU are a Chapter Match?!?!

1. You're a Physical Therapy (academic/clinical) Professional and actively pursuing research funding?!?

The PPTA Practice and Research Committee is excited to work with you on your research project! All submissions are equally considered. Current focus areas for research include, Dry Needling and Direct Access, then you need to apply TODAY! There are no limitation or date restrictions for submission of your research idea/grant request. If you are interested in applying for grant funding, please refer to the following link, and download your grant request. Directions for submission are included in this link:

<http://ppta.org/Committees/Archived/Research/ResearchAwardGrantDocuments.aspx>

2.Thinking about joining the Northeast District or Chapter PPTA team???

If you are thinking about volunteering or 'getting your feet wet' with Chapter or District organization activities and events, visit this page on ppta.org: **Volunteer List** <http://ppta.org/Home/ppta-volunteer-page>

Don't be afraid....we are willing to show you the ropes and help you start your journey toward PPTA involvement. Let us know what you are interested in and we will get you started! This is a great membership organization and we welcome members who would like to be part of the action! So...what are you waiting for???

You can receive email or text notifications of upcoming meetings by visiting this page: <http://ppta.org/Districts/Northeast.aspx>

Submit your response in the box on the top right corner of the page.

As always, the Northeast District PPTA Thanks YOU for being involved in your professional organization, our profession depends on it!

SOUTHCENTRAL

By Penny Samuelson, District Director

We are so happy that this year's annual convention brings you to the heart of our district. We offer some Pennsylvania Dutch hospitality and invite you to enjoy the food, the restful atmosphere and the beautiful scenery. We know that the conference committee has put together a program that will stimulate your mind and motivate you to participate in our organization.

Our fall schedule of meetings is underway and we hope to see you all at Lebanon Valley College on Tuesday December 6 at 6:30PM for our annual Pizza, Posters and Presentations meeting. Maria Poppe, our District's program chairman, has again put together an interesting variety of topics for our District meetings. Many thanks.

We are looking forward to touching base with all of the schools in our district this year. The vibrant insight and enthusiasm for professional growth in academia makes partnerships with our professional organization foreseeable and important. We hope that involvement with the PPTA will start during the student years and continue to grow throughout each person's career.

This fall finds us looking ahead and appreciating the path that has gotten us to where we are. Our district is looking to a complete turnover of the executive committee. All the present officers have reached their term limits. It is appropriate to recognize and appreciate those who have provided service to the district for the last six years. My thanks to all who have been easy to work with and have responsibly filled the duties of their offices. Tom Glumac has been our vice chair (and this was after being chairperson for six years). We appreciate your consistency of leadership and dedication to the profession. Sue Keener has been our secretary and managed to clearly present and record the activities of the business meetings and make sure we are all credited for our attendance.

Mary Ann Hoffman has been our treasurer and has “weathered the storm” of changing to a centralized treasury. Thank you all. I also want to thank all of our South Central district members who attended and participated in meetings, have volunteered to help with projects and events and have supported their profession.

By now the elections are over and our new slate of officers have been announced. They are great people and, with your help, will be looking to make the organization continue to work for you. Fresh ideas and approaches are always welcome. We may be venturing even more into alternate means of communication and meetings but still value the opportunity to get together every now and then to network. I encourage you to participate as there are some exciting projects ahead and the future of your profession is in your hands!

SOUTHWEST

By Jamie Dunlap Coates, District Director

The Children's Institute was the location of the April 12, 2016 SWD educational session. Susan C. Clinton, PT, DScPT, OCS, WCS, FAAOMPT, co-founder and co-owner of Embody Physiotherapy & Wellness, LLC presented "The Dynamic Trunk - From the Glottis to the Pelvic Floor." This educational session was approved for 1 general CEU.

The **7th Annual Mini-Combined Sections Meeting** was held April 23, 2016 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at *Herberman Conference Center- UPMC Shadyside Hospital*. *Educational sessions were presented in the areas of orthopedics, pediatrics, and neurological Physical Therapy. For the orthopedic course, Susan C. Clinton PT DScPT OCS WCS FAAOMPT presented "Assessing & Managing Connections from the Upper Cervical Spine to the Pelvis." The pediatric course entitled, "Serial Casting: Improving range of motion and gait mechanics" was presented by Kelly Bossola MSPT, PCS. Mary Kay Walsh PT, DPT, MS, Pamela Dunlap PT, DPT, NCS, and Michele Campeau MA, DPT presented "Vestibular Rehabilitation Across the Continuum of Care" to those attending the neurological course. All APTA Members in attendance received up to three (3) FREE Contact Hours!*

Members of the SWD were updated on the important issues facing our profession and those to be discussed and voted on at the annual APTA House of Delegates by the SWD delegates at the May 10, 2016 SWD meeting.

The 2016 Annual Southwest District PT PAC Fundraiser at PNC Park was held June 4, 2016. Members and student members enjoyed a tailgate prior to attending the baseball game, where the Pirates faced the Angels. A great time was had by all while supporting the PT PAC.

Fall 2016 Educational Sessions/Business Meetings for the SWD

Tuesday, September 13, 2016:

Speaker: **Michael Timko PT, MS, FAAOMPT**

Topic: **To Be Announced**

Location: **West Penn Hospital, 4800 Friendship Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15224**

Tuesday, October 11, 2016: Annual Scully Lecture:

Speaker: **Anthony Delitto PhD, PT, FAPTA**

Dean, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Pittsburgh

Topic: **To Be Announced**

Location: **University of Pittsburgh, University Club 123 University Pl, Pittsburgh, PA 15260**

WEDNESDAY, November 9, 2016

Speaker: **Matthew Kostek**

Topic: **"Exercise as a Treatment for Chronic Pain Conditions (animal and human experiments)" APPROVED FOR 1 CEU**

Location: **Western PA School for Blind Children, 201 N Bellefield Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15213**

WESTCENTRAL

By Kara Kobal, District Director

The Westcentral District is busy planning for an exciting Fall. Please look forward to our upcoming events including free continuing education from area physicians as well as ethics/ law topics. Our evening continuing education events are free to both members and non-members and offer up to 6 contact hours throughout the Fall and Spring. Additionally, evening meetings and continuing education events offer a social event with food and refreshments at no cost to attendees. We look forward to seeing you at our PT Month celebration and 5K race fundraiser! You can find information about our upcoming events on our web page at <http://ppta.org/Districts/WestCentral.aspx>. Don't forget to like us on Facebook (PPTA- West Central District)!

Thank you for your membership!

COMMITTEE NEWS

MEMBERSHIP

By Rebecca Stevens, ConnectPA

ConnectPA! is excited to continue to bring students and professionals together through PPTA membership committee. We are getting ready for Falls Prevention Awareness month in September by hosting several webinars to help Falls Prevention Champions across the state create community events about Moving Forward and exercise as a strategy for falls prevention. If you are interested in learning more or would like to find out how you can become a Falls Awareness Champion in your district, please contact Susan Gerhard at suegerhard@gmail.com. ConnectPA! will be hosting information sessions in July and August as well as providing literature and ideas that you can use in your event.

ConnectPA! is also proud to be working with Sean Sebeck, SPT (DeSales University) on an upcoming digital Student Newsletter. The newsletter will cover a wide range of topics for students and new professionals seeking more information about the profession and the PPTA. If you are interested in writing a short article or providing other contributions, please contact Sean at ss8019@desales.edu

Did you know that ConnectPA! has a home on the PPTA website? If not, head over to www.ppta.org and check us out! Look on the right side of the PPTA home page. One exciting new feature is the Click of the Month. Each month, interesting articles and websites are selected for you to check out. Click of the Month selections are diverse and may be of interest to physical therapists and physical therapist assistants at any stage of their career – from students to seasoned clinicians and educators and researchers.

ConnectPA! is thrilled to continue to support the PPTA membership. If you are interested in learning more or just want to check out some of the leadership presentations, articles, or upload a few pictures from conference – head on over to our virtual home on ppta.org!

PUBLIC POLICY AND ADVOCACY

By Ivan Mulligan, Chair

The Payment Policy and Advocacy Committee (PPAC), is responsible for assisting in researching topics that directly affect patient care in Pennsylvania. Over the past months the committee has been working hard for the patients that physical therapists treat in the Commonwealth. Items that the PPAC have been working on include: assisting with strategies to contest the proposed cut in reimbursement that physical therapists receive from Highmark, assisting in preparing PPTA's positions related to legislation that is pending in the State Assembly, and developing resources for physical therapists to use in areas enable their practice to be more efficient and effective. The PPAC has several work groups that are working on areas related to the practice act and various areas of practice. We will provide more specific information over the next few months and we look forward serving you in the upcoming year.

PA PT PAC NEWS

By Claire Peasley, Treasurer

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to PA PT PAC in 2015. A total of \$28,408 was raised throughout 2016 via District fundraisers, personal donations and from the annual PAC fundraiser and silent auction at Annual Conference in Seven Springs. All the personal contributions made by individuals to PA PT PAC, which supported the donations to our Pennsylvania legislators' campaigns in 2015 are listed below.

I hope everyone enjoyed the new format of the fundraiser at Annual Conference and I trust that there weren't too many overuse injuries the next day from the corn hole tournament! A special thank you goes to Kent Culley, Paul Welk, and Tucker Arensberg Attorneys for their continued support of the annual PAC fundraiser, and also to the Districts and individuals who donated items for the silent auction. Please join us again this year for our FUND RACER at Annual Conference at the Marriott in Lancaster where this year we will be hosting a scavenger hunt as well as a cocktail social hour and silent auction. Whether you want to beat your colleagues in the hunt or socialize while getting updates on the race progress there will be something for everyone.

PA PT PAC was formed by PPTA to support legislative efforts that affect our patients and our profession. Issues such as scope of PT and PTA practice, licensure of PTs and PTAs and direct access among many others are settled in the Pennsylvania Legislature. Most legislators have little to no healthcare experience except their experiences as a patient or caregiver. Therefore, when issues arise we need to educate them as to why the issue is important and how it affects patients and our practice. To assist in these efforts PA PT PAC supports campaigns of legislators who are advocates for physical therapy. PPTA is able to support the administrative expenses of PA PT PAC. However, **legally only your personal contributions and checks can be used to support the campaigns of Pennsylvania legislators who are advocates for our patients and profession.** There are several ways in which you can support PA PT PAC:

1. Attend fundraisers hosted by your District
2. Attend the PAC event at Annual Conference in Lancaster

3. Donate an item to the Silent Auction – donations will be accepted on Friday at the Conference and displayed throughout the conference. The auction will close and winners announced shortly before the end of the PAC event.
4. Make a personal donation
 - a. Send a personal check written to “PA PT PAC” to Claire Peasley, 2001 Hamilton Street, Apt 1518, Philadelphia, PA, 19130
 - b. Make a onetime payment card payment via PayPal
 - c. Make a recurring donation via PayPal
5. Host a fundraiser at your practice. Contact Claire Peasley at peasley.claire@gmail.com for more information.



DID YOU KNOW?

You can now donate to PA PT PAC using a bank account or credit/ debit card online! Simply visit www.PPTA.org and click on the donation link on the homepage to visit our PayPal site.

\$500 to \$999

Karl Gibson
Scott Voshell
Greg and Pam Waite
Sarah Wenger

\$250 to \$499

Colleen Chancler
Laurita Hack
Mike & Beth Johnson
Pamela Reynolds
Tennille Simonson
Mary Ann Wharton

\$150 to \$249

Stephen Bannister
Kent Culley
Jamie Dunlap
Carole Galletta
Todd Henkelmann
Stephen Hetzel
Norman Johnson
Jo Ellen Marks
Jeffrey Rothman
Craig & Christine Ruby
Nancy Shipe
Donna Skelly
Cheryl West

\$100 to \$149

Cheryl Boyle
Kathy Brown
Robin Dole
Susan Gerhard
Sarah Jameson
Glenn Labrozzi
Laura Lambert

Kristine Legters
Penelope Lescher
Elizabeth Marine
Benjamin Morris
Claire Peasley
Joseph Ruhl
Penelope Samuelson
Raymond Schaney
Jessica Shank
Barbara Wagner
Susan Wainwright
Robert Wellmon

\$50 to \$99

Sandra Abrams
Kim Annibali
Maria Benedetto
K Bossola
Joseph Bourgart
Matthew Castagnero
Melanie Cavanagh
Toni Cavanagh
Mark Drnach
Ellen Erdman
Margaret Finley
Lauren Fischer
Renee Frank
Zachary Friedman
Rose Gentile
Andew & Paola Grace
Dawn Gulick
Brian Hartz
Christopher Jones
Andrea Kessler
Elizabeth Knerr
John & Margery Lockard
Charles Lockwood

Sandra MacFarlane
Virgil Miller
George O'Malley, Jr.
Neil Parry
Ann Reppermund
Paul & Judy Rockar
Shannon Scanlan
Timothy Schell
Natalie Sibley
Rebecca Slater
Edward St. Clair
Won Sung
Perry Tallman
John Tawfik
Jonathan Tomaszewski
Janelle Walbert
Carol Wamsley
Mary Sue Wheeler
Jennifer Wilson
Ashley Wollman
Daniel WU
Eugene Zappa

\$10 to \$49

Margaret Action
Jenelle Aquino
Carly Babinec
Mary Lee Beach
Ryan Benedict
Molly Birt
Cary Bonci
Paul Bova
Judy Bowman
Colleen Bradley
Allen Breindel
Andrew Callan
Margaret Calvert

Emily Clark
Kathleen Coultres
Walter Dalessandris
Richard Decker
Danielle Demarco
Kristen Dengler
Lee Ann Derr
Nikki Disalvio
Andrew Frank
Steven Gough
Rachelle Green
Teana Green
Beth Gustafson
Janet Henderson
Joan Hewlings
Emily Horst
Tapani Kikani
Kayla Kotteles
Luke & Kara Kobal
Susan Kreinbrook
Brandon Kudasik
Carrie Leese
Melissa Lesser
Mei Yi Lim
Alyssa Livorio
Jennifer Long
David Lord
Ann Lowrey
Lisa MacKell
Adriane MacPhedran
Mikaela Maddock
Sheila McCool
Joe McNally
Elizabeth Mercado
Eric Meyer
Brittany Mostowy
Jaclyn Morino

Ivan Mulligan
Justin Ott
Katelyn Palkovic
Jeremy Paster
Steven Podratsky
Michael Reeves
Matthew Repko
Aimee Ring
Brandon Rodgers
Rebecca Russell
Sarah Rutledge
Joe Shaffo
Kay Scanlon
Tamber Schaef
Dylan Schwegler
Marcella Sheffler
Chelsea Shervinske
Donald Shipe
Kristin Siksa
Mary Sinnott
Douglas Slick
Mark Soler
Shayna Spano
Susan Staats
Joshua Streets
Tom Svec
Amy Szalinski
Matthew Taylor
Shannon Tempio
Bethany Trotter
Michael Turnwald
Sean Vanin
Shaun Varrecchia
Pamela Vasil
Kristin Von Nieda
Heeral Vyas
Landon Wahl

Connie Wang
Mary Wardrop
Jeff Welk
Robert White
Charles Wonsettler
Jessica Young
Chris Zurich

Ethics Matters-Filing An Ethical Complaint
Something Doesn't Seem Right – So What Should I Do Now?

By: Mary Ann Wharton, PT, MS
Chair, PPTA Ethics Committee

“I think my colleague is ignoring patient’s wishes when they aren’t feeling well and refuse PT – she forces them to participate to reach her productivity requirement”. “My partner is letting our PTA work without on-sight supervision and he doesn’t have a certificate of authorization”. “One of the PTs in my office is documenting progress when her patient’s aren’t showing any functional gains – I think she is trying to maximize reimbursement”. “The office manager is changing my billing and submitting upcharges to my patient’s insurance provider”. “We are in a designated participation area for Medicare’s Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement Model. The physicians are not referring patients to physical therapy to save money and earn bonuses”. “The narrow networks are killing my practice – insurance companies keep refusing my applications to be designated as an ‘in-network’ provider and patients who have been coming to me for years are forced to go elsewhere”.

The above statements are examples of inquiries that the PPTA Ethics Committee (CEC) has addressed over the past few years. Each of these statements represents an ethical concern, and some denote conduct that violates a legal statute as well. As licensed PTs and certified PTAs, every practitioner has the responsibility to practice within the ethical guidelines established by the American Physical Therapy Association, regardless of Association membership, and to adhere to the legal guidelines established by our licensure laws and other laws that regulate healthcare, such as the Medicare statute, Fraud and Abuse laws, and even the tenants of the Affordable Care Act. Unfortunately, conduct that is contrary to these regulations is often noticed by colleagues, but rarely does someone have the moral courage to do something about these wrongdoings. It is a fact that whistleblowing is frowned upon in our culture. However, the sad truth is that every therapist who violates these statutes is demeaning the ideals of our profession and devaluing the work that we do to transform society.

Clearly, it is the moral obligation of each practicing clinician to assure that these standards are being met and to take appropriate action to stop unethical and illegal practices that harm our patients and our profession. In fact, failure to do so is in itself a violation of the *Code of Ethics for the Physical Therapist (Code)*¹, *Standards of Ethical Conduct for the PTA (Standards)*², and the Pennsylvania Code³ and Regulations⁴ which govern our license.

So, what should a therapist do when he or she suspects or blatantly encounters conduct that is contrary to Code or Standards, or appears to be a violation of a law that governs PT practice? One of the first steps would be to discuss the concerns with the involved person and try to correct the conduct. This is a good first step, unless the conduct is so egregious that it requires immediate legal action. In those cases, the complainant/therapist who has factual knowledge should contact the appropriate authority with jurisdiction to adjudicate the case. If the situation involves a violation of the Practice Act, the therapist should file a complaint with the State Board. If the situation involves suspected Medicare fraud, the appropriate contact is the CMS Medicare Hotline. For other forms of suspected insurance fraud, notify the PA Insurance Department Hotline. If the action involves other criminal concerns, report the circumstances to the appropriate District Attorney. In any of these situations, it would also be advisable to seek legal advice from the attorney designated by your employer or from an attorney of your choice with experience in healthcare law.

But what if the therapist is unsure of what action to take? One of the services offered to PT and PTA members, nonmembers, and consumers is the opportunity to seek advice from the Chapter Ethics Committee. Members of this committee can provide insight and guidance on what steps to take. Where possible, they will attempt to provide recommendations to resolve the situation and come into compliance with the ethical and legal standards governing our profession. However, it is important to understand that they are not permitted to provide legal advice or to interpret the Practice Act or other laws. If the situation appears to require immediate legal action, they will direct the individual to seek legal advice or to report the situation to the appropriate authority or hotline. If the situation does not require legal action but involves potential violations of the Code or Standards, and recommendations to resolve the situation are not successful, the CEC will counsel the therapist to file an ethical complaint.

In matters that involve adjudication of ethical complaints, the CEC is bound by the requirements outlined by the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) in its *Disciplinary Action Procedural Document*⁵. This document establishes procedures for APTA's Ethics and Judicial Committee (EJC), and, where indicated, the CEC, to process claims that a member of the Association has violated the Code or Standards, and establishes guidelines for sanctions against a member's APTA rights and privileges. The EJC does not have authority to impose any sanction against a therapist's license or certification – this is the responsibility of the State Board. The document recently underwent major revisions and the revised document was adopted by the APTA Board of Directors in April. It went into effect immediately and was rolled out at an "Ethics Tea" hosted by the EJC at the NEXT Conference in June. The revised document contains substantive changes to approved methods for reporting suspected ethical violations against members. It also shifts the primary Chapter focus and responsibility from adjudication of ethical complaints to education about ethical practice. Specifically, the document provides step by step guidance for adjudicating any situation that involves an ethical concern. The following is a brief overview of this process:

- ◆ Situations that involve legal action must be fully adjudicated by a licensing authority or other government agency before the EJC will initiate ethical procedures.
- ◆ Once legal situations have been fully adjudicated, the EJC will determine whether it is appropriate to initiate ethical proceedings against an Association member.
- ◆ Any person may bring an ethics complaint against an APTA member by mailing a signed, notarized and written complaint to the EJC alleging that a member engaged in conduct that violated the Code or Standards. The EJC will not consider complaints submitted by fax or email.
- ◆ Disciplinary Proceedings may be processed solely at the Association level or the EJC may direct a Chapter President to appoint an Ethics Panel to conduct the initial investigation. In Pennsylvania, the CEC will serve as the Ethics Panel.
- ◆ Based on the results of the investigation, the complaint may be dismissed due to lack of evidence or failure to establish an ethical violation, or the following sanctions may be imposed against a member's APTA rights and privileges:
 - **Reprimand** with a statement that the respondent's behavior was contrary to the Code or Standards.
 - **Suspension** of a member's APTA membership rights and privileges for a period of at least six months.

- **Expulsion** of the member from the Association.
- ◆ All EJC decisions are subject to appeal to the APTA Board of Directors

In conclusion, the PPTA Ethics Committee is committed to supporting ethical physical therapy practice and resolving ethical concerns. We welcome inquiries and remarks about ethical matters. We also encourage members, non-members, and the public to take advantage of the educational services that the Committee provides. Please visit our page on the PPTA website to view links to Core ethics documents, resources, and newsletter articles. Additionally, we welcome comments on our publications and presentations, and encourage individuals to make recommendations for topics they would like to see addressed in the future.

PPTA Ethics Committee:

Mary Ann Wharton, PT, MS,
Chair

Geraldine Grzybek, PT, GCS

Michael Fine, PT, DPT, GCS

Pamela Pologruto, PT

Ann Lowrey, PTA

Steps to Take

- ◆ Consult with Chapter Ethics Committee
- ◆ Report any egregious concern that requires immediate legal action
- ◆ Attempt to resolve ethical concerns
- ◆ Mail a signed, notarized letter outlining an unresolved ethical concern to APTA's Ethics & Judicial Committee

References:

1. American Physical Therapy Association. Code of Ethics. Available at:
http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/About_Us/Policies/HOD/Ethics/Cod eofEthics.pdf Accessed 7/20/2016

2. American Physical Therapy Association. Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant. Available at:
http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/About_Us/Policies/HOD/Ethics/Standards.pdf
Accessed 7/20/2016

3. Pennsylvania Department of State, Physical Therapy. An Act relating to the Practice of Physical Therapy. Act 110. Available at:
<http://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/PhysicalTherapy/Documents/Applications%20and%20Forms/Non-Application%20Documents/PTM%20-%20Physical%20Therapy%20Practice%20Act.pdf>
Accessed 7/20/2016

4. Pennsylvania Department of State. Chapter 40 State Board of Physical Therapy. Available at:
<http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/049/chapter40/chap40toc.html>
Accessed 7/20/2016.

5. American Physical Therapy Association. Disciplinary Action Procedural Document. Available at:
http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/About_Us/Policies/Judicial_Legal/DisciplinaryActionProceduralDocument.pdf
Accessed 7/20/2016

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP NEWS

ACUTE CARE

By Melissa Lesser and Derek Zaleski, Co-Chairs

We hope you all are enjoying your summer! The Acute Care Special Interest group would like to make you aware of some important acute care related information and acute care related events happening the rest of the year.

First, there was a thought-provoking article published in Physical Therapy titled Role of Physical Therapists in Reducing Hospital Readmissions: Optimizing Outcomes for Older Adults During Care Transitions from Hospital to Community. The article states “hospital readmission rates after acute care discharge are 3 times higher if physical therapist (PT) discharge recommendations are replaced with less intensive interventions,” and offers numerous suggestions to decrease re-admission rates, such as: one-on-one communication between patient and provider, document functional recovery and trajectory of recovery, and perform routine follow-ups. Please refer to the article for a comprehensive list of recommendations:

<http://ptjournal.apta.org/content/early/2016/05/04/ptj.20150526>

Secondly, Annual Conference is fast approaching! Please register for the upcoming conference in October. Additionally, please consider attending other conferences and educational events scheduled to occur later this year and early 2017.

PPTA Annual Conference

October 28-30th, 2016

Lancaster, PA

Abstract deadline: July 5, 2016

<http://www.ppta.org/ProfessionalDevelopment/2016-ppta-annual-conference>

APTA Combined Sections Meeting

February 15-18, 2017

San Antonio, TX

Abstract deadline: June 22, 2016

<http://www.apta.org/CSM/Submissions/>

5th Annual Johns Hopkins Critical Care Conference

November 3-5 2016

Baltimore, MD

Abstract deadline: June 30th

<http://www.hopkinscme.edu/CourseDetail.aspx/80039445>

Lastly, we would like to congratulate Kristin Lefebvre, PT, PhD, CCS on winning the 2016 Acute Care Special Interest Group award! Kristin, Melissa and I look forward to presenting you with the award in October!

NEUROLOGIC

By Valerie Shuman, Secretary

We aim to provide additional continuing education opportunities to members, information regarding current practice issues, and opportunities for all members to contribute to our community of therapists interested in neurological PT practice. We encourage you to contact the SIG at schwartzs@upmc.edu if there is information you would like to see in an upcoming newsletter.

SIG Updates

Call for Member Participation

Do you have an article review, presentation, or research you would like to share? We would love for you to contact us and share your information with the SIG! As each SIG moves forward with plans to increase continuing education opportunities, we are looking to our membership to share their knowledge. Please contact Sara Hershberger schwartzs@upmc.edu to pursue this opportunity.

Innovation Summit PPTA Annual Conference, October 2016

We are seeking submissions for this year's Innovation Summit at the PPTA's Annual Conference in the fall. Any interested individuals should contact schwartzs@upmc.edu or carol.wamsley@uphs.upenn.edu for more information.

Meeting Format

Our current meetings are held once a year, in person, at the PPTA Annual Conference. The Neuro SIG is looking to maximize the membership experience and improve everyone's ability to participate in decision making, elections, and any additional considerations. We are requesting for members to respond to schwartzs@upmc.edu with their preference between an inperson meeting versus an online forum. Please respond by August 1 so that we may progress with planning our annual meeting.

Membership to any of the Chapter SIGs is free of charge and is not automatic with national membership. To join the Neurologic SIG, please contact Sara Hershberger at schwartzs@upmc.edu or contact the PPTA Chapter office at 1800962PPTA.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS

By Doug Slick, Chair

As I am writing this in mid-July, I am watching the Tour de France, and am struck by the similarities and contrasts between cycling racers and the PT/PTA team. To the uninitiated, a bike race may seem like a bunch of people peddling down the road as fast as they can toward the finish line. This is a primitive, but essential correct perception. However, underneath those integrated flow-vented helmets are cerebral cortices busily strategizing a myriad of possible actions superimposed on the timeline of the race. Stick with me here, you're gonna like this!

{Editorial note: throughout this article I will use male pronouns for convenience. No slight on women's' cycling, or my many female colleagues in therapy, is intended.}

A cycling team consists of a leader and the domestiques who support him, as well as support staff. Domestique translates literally as servant, but the role played by any particular domestique depends on his strength, experience, specialty and tactical knowledge. A PT should consider similar traits in their PTA teammate before assigning a patient or a particular intervention to their caseload. Patient safety being paramount, the PTA must be capable of safely and effectively performing the intervention(s) planned by the PT in the plan-of-care. Communication between team members is essential in this pursuit; PTs and PTAs must be frank in relating their comfort level in the clinic. Many bike races now prohibit riders from using headsets to communicate with fellow riders and team managers in support vehicles. This causes cyclists to use old-school techniques like shouting team strategy through the windows of moving cars!

One of the basic activities a domestique performs is to permit the leader to ride in his draft. The leader will ride with his front wheel almost touching the domestique's rear wheel. Keep in mind that riders typically average over 30 MPH on the flats of the Tour. It only takes a light touch of the wheel to cause the rider's dynamic balance to evaporate. The rider's feet are clipped to the pedals with special shoes to allow the athletes to incorporate their hip flexors, as well as the extenders. It's difficult to fall gracefully when you're attached to a bicycle! The resulting aerodynamic advantage of the drafting can provide the leader with as much as 30% energy savings on a flat road.

To a racing cyclist, this benefit is well worth the risk. Together a PT/PTA team can serve a much larger caseload by treating patients simultaneously. This is good for patient care, patient satisfaction and scheduling, as well as the clinic's bottom line. With a PTA as a PT extender, the facility will serve a larger population with an advantageous salary-to-reimbursement ratio.

If a group of riders pulls ahead of the main group, which is called the peloton, the domestique will join them to protect his leader's interests. The domestique may remain available at the end of the breakaway to help when the time is right for the leader to join the forward group. Alternatively, he may sprint to the front of the breakaway group and pace them down, to prevent the gap from becoming too great for his leader to traverse later in the race. Similarly, PTAs communicate with their PT teammate regarding a patient's progress, or lack of thereof, permitting the PT to easily supervise care. If the patient is achieving goals, the PTA will request the PT revise the goals to provide headroom for continued progress. This keeps the PTA within their scope of practice. If the planned interventions aren't having the desired result, the PTA will communicate that as well, and the PT may consider changing the plan-of-care. This serves the greater purpose of helping the patient achieve their personal goals efficiently and safely.

In the event of a crash or a mechanical problem affecting the cycling team's leader, the domestique will stay with the leader to assist him in making a quick return to the competition. That may simply involve picking him up, or getting medical attention; it may require the domestique to trade a wheel or his entire bike with the leader's damaged one. Teammates in the rehab setting are always at the ready to help one another. Unlike the cycling team, our assistance can flow reciprocally. We can each help the other work through a clinical quandary or learn a new technique. PTs can assist PTAs by utilizing their diagnostic skills to trouble shoot a new patient complaint or decide if a status change has taken place since the last therapy session. If a PTA is more experienced than the supervising PT, he can share skills and strategies the PT is unfamiliar with. Some domestiques are more gifted in tactical vision than the leader, who is usually the fastest rider but not necessarily the most tactically aware. A good team will make use of every member's skill set.

The domestique tries to keep the leader moving toward the finish line. If the leader requires food or water during the race, the domestique will drop back to the team car and retrieve the needed provisions, passing them to the leader during the race. There is no limitation in any state's practice act that prohibits either a PT or a PTA from buying their teammate a coffee in the morning or picking up the tab at the pub on Friday evening after work. You don't even have to make the exchange from a moving vehicle while riding 30 MPH on a bike!

The particular duties of the domestique will vary, depending on the specialty of the lead rider. If the leader is a sprinter or a climber, the strategies of the team will contrast dramatically. Similarly, the setting in which physical therapy is delivered dictates practitioners be educated and experienced in differing techniques. The function and regulations of the PT/PTA team are quite different in the acute care setting, as opposed to a school setting for instance. Just as a practice specializing in pelvic floor disorders will look nothing like a sport-centric clinic. Therapists, like cyclists, should find the niche that suits them and strive to be their best.

Finally, there is the super domestique. I'm not kidding, that's what they are called! This is the domestique, who has the skills to be a team leader himself, but chooses to keep life simple, out of the limelight, and remains in service of another. In the rehab world, this could be the PTA with 35 years experience who takes the PT new grad under his wing. It might be the retired PT who mentors a PTA who has recently changed settings and feels vulnerable. It is rewarding to serve others, and the dopamine release is enjoyable too!

Everyone is riding a personal race. Our noble profession positions us to help our patients cross the finish line with their torsos erect and their upper extremities in 180 degrees of shoulder flexion, just like the winner of the Tour de France will do!

PRIVATE PRACTICE

By Jennifer Green-Wilson

Trying something new or different can be challenging and rewarding at the same time. Changing how to do things, or changing behaviors, requires energy, commitment, time, self-management, feedback and intentional practice.

Securing the right for patients to access physical therapists' services directly has been a key initiative for APTA and PPTA for many years. Yet, according to APTA, the impact of direct access on physical therapist practice continues to be less than anticipated. In October 2009, APTA's Practice Department conducted a survey of physical therapist members in select chapters to determine the extent to which direct access is being used and promoted by physical therapists, the variation in its use in different practice settings and geographical locations, and the reasons for these variations. The survey results/Executive Summary can be accessed by APTA members at: <http://www.apta.org/DirectAccess/>.

According to the survey results, a few of the main reasons for not using direct access in clinical practice include: reimbursement concerns; lack of knowledge of state direct access laws; and restrictions placed on use of direct access by employer (APTA).

Pennsylvania was selected to participate in this survey because it requires a special certification process for physical therapists before they can see patients without a referral; 388 members responded to this survey. According to the survey results (Executive Summary), when asked if they treat patients via direct access, 187 survey respondents in PA responded 'yes' (57%) and 180 survey respondents responded 'no' (49%). Additionally, when asked if they experienced a denial of payment for services provided under direct access from insurance companies due to a lack of referral on file, 157 survey respondents responded 'no' (86.7%) and 24 survey respondents responded 'yes' (13.3%) (APTA).

Possibly, lingering myths or misunderstandings associated with direct access may still be limiting the chance to change how physical therapists' practice (APTA). For example, while many view direct access as being extremely relevant to private practices, they may not know that several major hospital and health systems are successfully treating outpatients without referrals because they eliminated various institutional restrictions effectively (APTA).

Additionally, while many understand that direct access is relevant to orthopedic patients, others may not know that physical therapists are successfully using direct access across the United States in: private-pay home care, industry, sports, performing arts venues, school systems, pediatric facilities, and inpatient settings (APTA).

Sometimes fear limits change. Fortunately, direct access has not increased liability risk. According to the APTA, since direct access has been available (over 30 years in some states), there has never been a documented increase in liability claims or an increase in liability premiums resulting from direct access. Knowledge can be powerful! Over the next year, the PPTA-PPSIG plans to assist physical therapists in leveraging the potential that direct access has to enhance the care that is given to patients/clients. In the meantime, for more information, go to: <http://www.apta.org/DirectAccess/>.

PAYMENT SPECIALIST NEWS

By Carole Galletta, PT, MPH

Issues in this article:

- I. New CPT codes for physical therapy initial evaluation and re-evaluation**
- II. PPTA Fall Reimbursement and Regulation Updates dates/locations**
- III. Federal Updates (MACRA, MIPS, etc!)**
- IV. PA Workers Comp**
- V. Novitas-Solutions Inc. Local Coverage Determination LCD L35036 - Update**
 - 1. Documentation of Time**
 - 2. PTA Supervision**
- VI. PTA supervision and payment: FAQ**
- VII. Highmark Issues**
- VIII. Capital Blue Cross Medical Policy 8.0001**
- IX. Ongoing ACTION ITEMS**
 - Tracking Trends
 - APTA Advocacy request
 - UM/UR Vendor complaint form
- X. Sign up for the Reimbursement Blast list**
- XI. Benefits of belonging... access to the PPTA Payment Specialist**

- I. New CPT codes for PT evaluation and re-evaluation were announced on July 8th in the proposed 2017 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule.**
 - 1. “The new evaluation code descriptors stratify evaluations by complexity—low, moderate, and high—but in a departure from recommendations from the American Medical Association's Relative Value Scale Update Committee, they will be priced as a group rather than individually. That means CMS will keep the longstanding relative value unit (RVU) of 1.20 for all 3 levels of evaluation. The proposed rule also includes 1 reevaluation code with an RVU of .60.” For more information, check out <http://www.apta.org/PTinMotion/News/2016/7/8/FeeScheduleProposed2017/> and plan to attend the PPPTA Reimbursement and Regulation Updates this fall!**

II. PPTA Fall Reimbursement and Regulation Updates

October 4th (Harrisburg); **October 5th** (Gwynedd); **October 6th** (Bloomsburg); and **October 13th** (Monroeville) Registration information will be posted to the PPTA website in late August.

III. **Federal updates:** Check out the APTA's "Insider Intel" transcript June 15, 2016 for information about: Proposed MACRA rule highlights, new MMR process, IMPACT implementation (payment reform for post-acute care providers), and implementation of the SNF payroll-based journal. <http://www.apta.org/InsiderIntel/>

IV. PA Workers Comp

- If you are aware that injured workers are being directed to panel providers beyond the 90-day time frame required by law, please contact Carole Galletta, PPTA Payment Specialist csgalletta@gmail.com
- Pennsylvania Workers' Compensation Medical Fee Schedule June 15, 2016 Update is posted on the PPTA website www.ppta.org (members only/Reimbursement/Payment)

V. Novitas-Solutions, Inc. Local Coverage Determination LCD L35036 - Update

(Note: The Summer edition of the PPTA Newsletter discussed several new elements of Novitas' Local Coverage Determination L35036. Please see that issue for information regarding iontophoresis, ultrasound, and canalith repositioning.)

1. Documentation requirements for time: Novitas

A communication from Heidi DeDay CMD Research Analyst, Medical Affairs, Novitas Solutions, Inc. on June 7th stated that "Novitas would expect for any timed services, to see the time (in unrounded minutes) for each timed service and the total amount of time in the medical record."

2. Direct supervision of Physical Therapist Assistants (PTAs): The most recent publication of Novitas LCD L35036 has been corrected to read as follows:

“Medicare covers therapy services personally performed only by one of the following:

- Licensed therapy professionals: licensed physical therapists and occupational therapists
- Licensed PTA with **appropriate** supervision by a licensed physical therapist.”

VI. Frequently asked questions regarding payment and Physical Therapist Assistants

1. In Novitas LCD L35036, what is meant by “appropriate” supervision of the PTA?

Per **CMS Pub 100-02 Chapter 15 Section 230.1 - Practice of Physical Therapy C. Services of Physical Therapy Support Personnel ...**

“A physical therapist must supervise PTAs. The level and frequency of supervision differs by setting (and by state or local law). General supervision is required for PTAs in all settings except private practice (which requires direct supervision) unless state practice requirements are more stringent, in which case state or local requirements must be followed.”

- **Legal requirements for PTA supervision (direct and indirect) can be found in the PA Practice Act Section 9.1 (3) Supervision** requirements of a physical therapist assistant shall be dependent upon the practice setting in which the care is delivered:

<http://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/PhysicalTherapy/Pages/Board-Laws-and-Regulations.aspx#.VHTUUVZOk5s> and the **PA Practice Act Regulations**

(c) Practice setting. A physical therapist assistant holding a current certificate of authority to provide services under indirect supervision may do so in accordance with this section and section 9.1(c) of the act.

<http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/049/chapter40/chap40toc.html>

- **IMPORTANT:** Legal requirements and payment requirements are not the same! Remember that Medicare regulations supersede the PA Practice Act in that CMS requires direct supervision of the PTA in the Private Practice setting.
2. Do all payers reimburse for PTA services? No. Tricare and Champus do not reimburse for services provided by a PTA. There may be other payers in your payer mix who have policies related to payment for PTA services. Be sure to read your payers' policies for this and other restrictions/requirements.

VII. Highmark Issues:

Frustrated with Highmark medical policies that interfere with patient access, result in cost shifting to patients and add an unreasonable administrative burden? Check out the "Talking points" regarding the many issues providers are dealing with related to Highmark products on the PPTA website www.ppta.org (Members only/ Payment/Reimbursement) Interested in helping the PPTA take action? Contact csgalletta@gmail.com

VIII. **Capital Blue Cross Medical Policy 8.0001**

The Payment Specialist has received questions regarding CBC medical policy 8.0001. Following are the FAQs and CBC responses:

1. "Physical therapy providers shall confer with the referring physician **after the initial 4 weeks** and every 4 weeks after the initial authorization period regarding the plan of treatment and provide a summary describing the individual's response to treatment and progress towards established goals.
 - a. Does this mean Direct Access is acceptable? **"Direct Access is acceptable and we will authorize PT visits for those 30 days (following PA PT practice act/ state guidelines.) We do require a written updated POC or progress note or a prescription signed by a physician if the PT continues to treat past the initial 30 days."**
2. "An **evaluation** and treatment plan is required for each ongoing authorization period (4 weeks)."

- a. Does this infer payment for re-evaluation every four weeks? **“We review clinical information every 4 weeks for preauthorization of therapy. What we are asking for is an updated POC/ progress note with objective information and the member’s progress toward goals. It does not have to be a formal re-eval.”**
3. “Information on Manual Lymphedema Drainage Therapy has been removed from the policy and **will now be addressed in Interqual criteria.**”
 - a. Providers are unable to access the Interqual Criteria. What are the parameters for MLD? **“We use Interqual Criteria as a guideline for authorizing therapy visits. We do not own this criteria and it is licensed, so we are not able to simply release it. I know that may make it difficult for some PTs to have an idea of what to expect. We recommend that they always request what they feel is medically necessary for their patients. If we issue a denial for visits and a PT disagrees with the decision and feels these visits were medically necessary and would like to appeal, they can request to see the specific criteria we used for the denial. The member or provider can call Customer Service (1-800-962-2242) to request the criteria. There is also information that is included in the denial letter that explains how to request the criteria.”**

IX. Ongoing ACTION ITEMS:

- **Tracking Trends:** Please email the PPTA Payment Specialist (csgalletta@gmail.com) if you identify a **CPT code that is being denied**; an **ICD-10 coding issue**; and/or payment **denial issues** that may signal a change in a payer’s payment policies or medical policies. **Your daily handling of physical therapy claims is an invaluable resource for the Payment Specialist in tracking payer trends for PT in Pennsylvania!**
- As large insurers begin to merge, patient benefits, provider networks, and payment rates all are likely to change and we need to be prepared to demonstrate our concerns in concert with other affected stakeholders.

- **APTA suggests that members notify them at apta@advocacy.org regarding significant policy/benefit changes as they occur.** Please copy Carole Galletta csgalletta@gmail.com on communications to APTA.
- APTA wants to advocate on behalf of our membership and the profession to address issues related to the increased use of third-party administrators. To develop a cohesive strategy with viable alternatives, APTA needs to gather specific data. **If you are experiencing problems with a UM/UR vendor, complete this form, and APTA staff will contact you within 3 days to discuss the issues that have been presented.** Please do not share any information that would violate the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).
<http://www.apta.org/Payment/PrivateInsurance/TPAUtilizationMgmtReview/FeedbackForm/>

X. MEMBER BENEFIT! Keeping up with Regulation and Reimbursement Issues

The PA Chapter of the APTA offers members a direct and timely way to receive reimbursement and regulation information. If you are a member and would like to be on the **Reimbursement Blast** email list, contact Toni Annibali at the PPTA office through tannibali@ppta.org and request that your email address be added to the Blast list. All PTs and PTAs requesting to receive Blasts must be members of the PPTA. If you are administrative staff working with a PPTA member, just give us the member number of your colleague and you can submit your email address.

XI. MEMBER BENEFIT! Payment Specialist

As a **PT or PTA member** of the PPTA, **you and your support staff** may contact the PPTA Payment Specialist for current information on reimbursement and regulatory issues or to help solve related problems. Contact information is csgalletta@gmail.com or 412.266.8717. **If you email, please include your name and member number. If you are a non PT or PTA support staff member, please include the PPTA member's name and number that you work with in the message, and always complete the subject line with the topic of your question.**

Please contact the PPTA Payment Specialist at csgalletta@gmail.com with questions regarding any information provided in this newsletter article.

SAVE THE DATE!!!

PPTA 2016 Fall Reimbursement & Regulations Updates

October 4, 2016
Best Western Hotel
Harrisburg

October 5, 2016
Gwynedd Estates
Ambler

October 6, 2016
Bloomsburg University
Bloomsburg

October 13, 2016
CCAC – Boyce Campus
Monroeville

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2016 AWARD WINNERS!

CARLIN-MICHELS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

JANE WETZEL

SERVICE AWARD

MARY ANN HOFFMAN

HUMANITARIAN AWARD

NANCY SHIPE

STEVEN KOLUMBAN OUTSTANDING PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT
AWARD

GERIATRIC SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP'S AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

JUDITH B. BOWMAN, PT

PEDIATRIC SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP'S AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

NEUROLOGY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP'S AWARD OF THE PPTA

VINCENT IMPERATRICE PRIVATE PRACTICE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP'S
AWARD

SUSAN CLINTON

Every year the PPTA honors those who are outstanding among its members or who have provided exemplary service to its members. Recipients are nominated by the Membership and the selections are made by the Awards Committee of the Board of Directors. The awards will be presented prior to the start of the Annual Membership Meeting at 4:45 p.m. on Saturday, October 28th at The Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square, Lancaster, PA.

PPTA AWARD RECIPIENTS

CARLIN-MICHELS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

1973	Dorothy Baethke Kathryn L. Kelley
1974	E. Jane Carlin Eugene Michels
1975	Frederick Monaco
1976	Robert W. Richardson
1977	Archibald B. Simons
1978	James A. Armour
1979	David Weiler
1980	Victoria Green
1981	Mary Ellen Smith
1982	John W. Robinson
1983	Rosemary Scully
1984	Carl Pfirman
1985	No Recipient
1986	Thomas J. Campeau
1987	Jean K. Byers
1988	Jerome Martin Hyman Dervitz
1989	Laurita M. Hack
1990	Rebecca Craik
1991	Mary P. Watkins
1992	Jan K. Richardson
1993	Susan L. Whitney
1994	Larry Fronheiser
1995	Thomas Winner
1996	Francis Welk
1997	William Inverso
1998	Kevin A. Cody
1999	Pamela Unger
2000	Jane Styer-Acevedo
2001	Anthony Delitto
2002	Katherine Shepard
2003	Paul Rockar, Jr.
2004	Kim Nixon-Cave
2005	Karl Gibson
2006	Charles Meacci
2007	No Recipient
2008	Thomas R. Stewart

2009	Kristin Von Nieda
2010	Mary Ann Wharton
2011	Geraldine Grzybek
2012	Carole Galletta and Sandy McCuen
2013	Michael Fink
2014	Philip McClure
2015	No Recipient
2016	Jane Wetzel

SERVICE AWARD

1985	Barbara Kehler-Afflerbach J. Kent Culley
1986	Laurita M. Hack
1987	Rose M. Baker
1988	David F. Weber
1989	Judith B. Bowman
1990	Larry P. Fronheiser Carole S. Galletta
1991	Pamela Unger
1992	Joanne R. Eisenhardt Karl Gibson
1993	Francis Welk
1994	Barbara Afflerbach Sandra McCuen
1995	Mary Schmidt-Read C. Raymond Schaney
1996	Geraldine Grzybek
1997	Mary Sinnott
1998	Cynthia N. Potter Timothy M. Schell
1999	Tom Stewart
2000	Sandra Feather
2001	Christopher Hughes
2002	Michael Johnson
2003	Judith Hikes
2004	Mary Ann Wharton
2005	Linda Esposto
2006	No Recipient
2007	Brigid Gallagher
2008	No Recipient
2009	Judith Traister
2010	Betty Knerr
2011	Robin Dole

2012	Bob Wellmon
2013	Ivan Mulligan
2014	Pamela Reynolds
2015	Susan Tomlinson
2016	Mary Ann Hoffman

J. KENT CULLEY FELLOWSHIP AWARD

1992	William B. McBeth
1993	Marianne Varano
1994	Cocco Brothers
1995	No Recipient
1996	F.A. Davis Company
1997	Dowd Rental Services & Sales, Inc.
1998	Joseph H. Carter, Jr.
1999	William Rowlands
2000	Kim L. Annibali
2001	Weaver Therapy Products
2002	J. Kent Culley
2003	Joe Carl
2004	Michael L. Annibali U.S. Congressman Phil English
2005	No Recipient
2006	Jerry Segal
2007	No Recipient
2008	Orthologix
2009	Blackburn's
2010	No Recipient
2011	Lynn McGillin
2012	No Recipient
2013	John Letizia
2014	John Stills
2015	No Recipient
2016	No Recipient

HUMANITARIAN AWARD

1996	Ann Cerbulis
1997	Jeffrey Cadoretto
1998	Diane Cornman-Levy
1999	Karen Sawyer
2000	Thomas Glumac
2001	Margaret Rinehart-Ayres
2002	No Recipient
2003	Evelyn Hannigan
2004	No Recipient

2005	Denise English Hartz Physical Therapy
2006	No Recipient
2007	Grace Lefever
2008	Margery Lockard
2009	Deborah Hills Marcella Sheffler
2010	No Recipient
2011	John Sanko
2012	Cindy Potter
2013	William Hanlon
2014	Kerstin Palombaro
2015	Sandra Abrams
2016	Nancy Shipe

STEVEN KOLUMBAN OUTSTANDING PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT AWARD

2015	Lawrence Geier
2016	

PPTA 2016 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 28-30, 2016
LANCASTER MARRIOTT AT PENN SQUARE, LANCASTER, PA
REGISTER NOW AT WWW.PPTA.ORG TO RECEIVE THE EARLY BIRD
DISCOUNT RATE!!!

THE REGISTRATION DESK WILL BE OPEN DURING THE FOLLOWING TIMES:

Friday: 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Saturday: 7:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Badges must be worn at all times to be admitted into all educational sessions and social events.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Pennsylvania Physical Therapy Association is a pre-approved provider of contact hours for continuing education. The PA State Board of Physical Therapy, however, has the ultimate authority to make the determination regarding whether a particular course is approved for contact hours. For example, the PA State Board of Physical Therapy guidelines currently provide that courses in practice building, office management, billing and documentation will not be accepted even when offered by a pre-approved provider. Please review to www.dos.pa.gov/physther for further clarification.

INNOVATIONS IN PA

Innovations in PA will be held on Friday, October 28th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Contact hours will be awarded to participants.

OPENING RECEPTION

To kick-off the 2016 Annual Conference, an Opening Reception will be held on Friday, October 28th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Exhibit Hall.

POSTER AND PLATFORM PRESENTATIONS

Posters will be available for review on Saturday, October 29th. Presenters will be in attendance at their respective posters from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Platform presentations will be held on Saturday, October 29th from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. A boxed lunch will be available in the platform presentation rooms.

LEGISLATIVE AMBASSADOR LUNCHEON

Do you want to receive up-to-date information on what's hot in the legislative arena? Then be sure to attend the Legislative Ambassador Luncheon on Friday, October 28th at 11:00 a.m. You must be a Legislative Ambassador to attend and a ticket is required.

AWARDS PRESENTATIONS/ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The 2016 Awards Presentations will take place immediately prior to the start of the Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, October 29th from 4:45 to 6:30 p.m. There are important issues to be discussed. Please plan on attending! **A TICKET OR VALID APTA MEMBERSHIP CARD IS REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION.**

MAKE TIME TO VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

Stay up with the latest technological advances. One to one recruitment opportunities; Network with vendors from across the country and much much more! The Exhibit Hall will be open Friday from 2:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

DELEGATE MEETING

PA Delegates will meet on Sunday, October 30th from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

“ACO Impact on the PT Profession”

Speaker: Roshunda Drummond-Dye, JD

This course is Friday.

Contact hours: no contact hours will be awarded for this course.

“Medical Screening for the Physical Therapist – The Sherlock Holmes Approach”

Speaker: William Boissonnault, PT, DPT, DHSc, FAAOMPT, FAPTA

This course is Friday-Saturday-Sunday.

Contact hours: 14 evaluative contact hours

“Case-Based Physical Therapy Management of Selected Musculoskeletal Dysfunction in the Obstetric Client”

Speaker: Jill Boissonnault, PT, PhD, WCS

This course is Friday-Saturday-Sunday.

Contact hours: 10.25 general contact hours, 3.75 evaluative contact hours

“Rehabilitation in MS: Promoting Functional Recovery and Neuroplasticity”

Speaker: Susan Bennett, PT, DPT, EdD, NCS, MSCS

This course is Friday-Saturday.

Contact Hours: 6 general contact hours, 4 evaluative contact hours

“An Introduction to TMR Tots for Torticollis”

Speaker: Susan Blum, PT

This course is Saturday-Sunday.

Contact hours: 10 general contact hours

“Focus on Balance in MS: Comprehensive Examination and Treatment”

Speaker: Susan Bennett, PT, DPT, EdD, NCS, MSCS

This course is Sunday.

Contact hours: 2 general contact hours, 2 evaluative contact hours

SCHOOL NEWS

ARCADIA UNIVERSITY

Welcome New Faculty

Michael A. Tevald, PT, PhD, earned a Master of Physical Therapy from the University of Delaware and a PhD in Physiology from Virginia Commonwealth University, followed by post-doctoral training in Muscle Physiology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Prior to joining Arcadia University, Dr. Tevald was on faculty at the University of Toledo.

Dr. Tevald's clinical experience is primarily in acute care, and his research has focused on the alterations in muscle that accompany aging and the chronic diseases associated with aging. His work has been supported by the American Heart Association and the Foundation for Physical Therapy.

APTA

Susan Tomlinson, PT, DPT, participated in an Education Session panel presentation, "Moving Clinical Education Forward: Preparing the Future DPT," at APTA NEXT 2016 in Nashville.

Scott Stackhouse, PT, PhD, was elected to another term as Treasurer for the Section on Research of the APTA (2016-2018).

PT Alumni Golf Outing

Saturday, October 1, 2016
Limekiln Golf Club, Ambler, PA

Save the date to join alumni and friends of the Arcadia University Department of Physical Therapy for a day on the links at the Limekiln Golf Club on Saturday, Oct. 1!

The outing will begin with a shotgun start at 1:30 p.m. and will conclude with a dinner that evening at 6:30 p.m. Alumni and friends who are not able to join for the entire day will be able to join us just for the dinner.

Health Policy and Practice Management Faculty Institute, August 12-13, 2016

Faculty who teach health policy and practice management content will find this an invaluable resource. Dianne Jewell, Laurie Hack, and Debbie Miller will bring real-life expertise to help faculty in choosing content and designing teaching and learning activities that provide students the necessary competence in these vital areas of practice. The Institute will be held at Arcadia University. Check this link for registration information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/health-policy-and-practice-management-faculty-institute-registration-24848311970>

Students Travel for Pro Bono Experiential Learning

Arcadia students continue to travel the world in pursuit of knowledge and clinical experience. This upcoming fall, 27 students will travel to the countries of Peru, Guatemala, Jamaica, and our newest experiential learning destination, Belize.

Faculty Symposium Course, October 15, 2016

Dr. Kate Mangione will coordinate Arcadia PT's second annual Faculty Symposium: "*Rehabilitation of Older Adults: Consensus and Controversies.*" The course will explore current advances, primary research findings, and evidence-based approaches to patients with TKA, balance & strength disorders, frailty, and dementia. Speakers include premier faculty from multiple institutions. Look for the upcoming registration in the mail and on the web.

LEBANON VALLEY COLLEGE

Lebanon Valley College has added Athletic Training and Exercise Science as an expansion of the health science programs offered at the college. The College is in the process of constructing a new 60,000 sq ft facility for these programs.

Newly promoted at Lebanon Valley College: Dr. Katie Oriel to Professor, Dr. Mike Fink to Associate Professor, Dr. Claudia Gazsi to Associate Professor and Dr. Mike Lehr to Associate Clinical Professor.

Sixteen DPT students (Lindi Crist, Kaitlyn Deardoff, Danielle Douglass, Kiersten Prenger, Rebecca Ulicny, Danielle Wirick, Mandi Albright, Lindsay Cirone, Gabrielle Groff, Corinne Palumbo, Joanna Shockey, Lauren Brennan, Kristen L. Miller, Kristen P. Miller, Anthony Muscio, and Kristi Troch) presented at CSM this past February in Anaheim CA

Dr. Mike Fink was recently invited to be the keynote speaker for the Taiwan Physical Therapy Association Annual Conference. While in Taiwan, he also presented a two-day Differential Diagnosis course at the National Yang-Ming University <http://www.lvc.edu/News/index.aspx?newsid=da5a8799-5f32-4d08-9813-ba3ab7524830>.

Dr. Robin Myers was appointed to serve on the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties for a 4-year term

Dr. Mike Fink as appointed to serve a 4-year term as the Item Bank Coordinator for Sports Specialty Council.

Dr. Mike Lehr was recertified as a Clinical Specialist in Orthopedic Therapy.

Dr. Marcia Epler was awarded internal faculty/student grant for current study entitled "Relationship Among Balance, Lower Limb Asymmetry, and Movement Velocity on Y-Balance Test Performance"

Recent faculty publications and presentations:

Epler M, Merril G, and Tome J: "Validity and Reliability of the Brain Sentry® Impact Sensor and the Applicability to Traumatic Brain Injury in Sports." Current Research: Concussion. Autumn, 2015; 2(3): 87-102.

Ulrich E, Myers R, Walko M, Epler M, Dacko S, and Murphy, J: "Reliability of Video-Based Observation of Head Impacts Compared to a Standardized Instrument in Male Collegiate Lacrosse Players." Poster presentation at National Athletic Trainer's Clinical Symposia & Expo. Baltimore, MD, June, 2016.

Kanupka JW, Oriol KN, George CL, Hanna A, Lloyd S and Snyders O. The Impact of Participation in an Aquatic Exercise Program on Behavior in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Preliminary Study. *Austin J Autism & Relat Disabil.* 2016; 2(2): 1019.

Oriol, K.N., Kanupka, J.W., George, C.L., Crist, L., Deardorff, K., Douglass, D., Prenger, K., Ulicny, R., Wirick, D. The Impact of Aquatic Exercise on Sleep Behaviors in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Poster presented at the 2016 Combined Sections Meeting, February 2016; Anaheim, CA.

Oriol, K.N., George, C.L., Kanupka, J.W., Albright, A., Cirone, L., Groff, G., Palombo, C., Shockey, J. The Impact of Participation in an Aquatic Exercise Program as an Adjunct to Traditional Early Intervention Services in Young Children with Disabilities. Poster presented at the 2016 Combined Sections Meeting, February 2016; Anaheim, CA.

Niethamer L, Myers R. Manual therapy and exercise for a patient with neck-tongue syndrome: a case report. *J Orthop Sports Phys Ther.* 2016 Mar; 46(3):217-24. PubMed PMID: 26868897.

Kloos A, Zablony C, Myers R, Perry S. Compendium of Instructional Resources for Neurologic Physical Therapy Residency Programs. Neurology Section, APTA, 2015. Available at the APTA store:

http://iweb.apta.org/Purchase/ProductDetail.aspx?Product_code=NEURO-003

Myers R, Walko M, Epler M, Dacko S, Ulrich E "Reliability of Video-Based Observation of Head Impacts Compared to a Standardized Instrument in Male Collegiate Lacrosse Players" Poster presentation, Concussion and Brain Injury Management, Penn State Hershey College of Medicine, Harrisburg, PA, April 1-2, 2016.

Brennan L., Miller KL., Miller KP., Muscio A., Troch K., Dacko S. "Heath Attitudes of Patients in a Physical Therapy Pro Bono Clinic" Poster presented at the 2016 Combined Sections Meeting, February 2016; Anaheim, CA.

Dr. Mike Lehr: "Maximizing Movement and Performance of the Ankle Complex" Invited speaker at the Penn State Hershey Sports Symposium. Hershey PA July 2015.

Dr. Cayce Onks and Dr. Mike Lehr "Predictive Value of the FMS – Pros and Cons" invited speaker at the Penn State Hershey Sports Symposium. Hershey PA August 2016.

Fink ML, Lehr ME, Peers BS, Ulrich EL, Baiocchi KG, Lever S. Efficacy of Instrument-Assisted Soft Tissue Mobilization and Ankle Mobilization With Movement on the Dynamic Balance and Closed Kinetic Chain Dorsiflexion of Collegiate Athletes: A Randomized Controlled Trial. Platform presentation at the Pennsylvania Physical Oct 2015

THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY

Faculty News:

We are pleased to welcome three new faculty members:

Lisa Hogleund, PT, PhD, OCS, Cert. MDT, joined the faculty as an Associate Professor.

Amy Amabile, PT, MPT, PhD and **Robert Dekerlegand, PT, MPT, PhD, CCS** both joined the faculty as Assistant Professors.

Educational Sessions:

Johnston TE, Wood S, Scheppers M, French J, Bryden A. Technology for Upper Extremity Restoration and Rehabilitation: The tools we have and what is needed. American Spinal Injury Association, April 2016.

Publications:

Richardson RT, Nicholson KF, Rapp EA, **Johnston TE**, Richards JG. A comparison of acromion marker cluster calibration methods for estimating scapular kinematics during upper extremity ergometry. J Biomech. 2016 May 3;49(7):1255-8.

Gorski K, Harbold K, Haverstick K, Schultz E, Shealy SE, and **Krisa L**. Locomotor Training in the Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury Population: A Systematic Review of the Literature. Topics in Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation 2016;22(2):135–148

Book Chapter:

Johnston TE. NMES and FES in Patients with Neurologic Diagnoses. In: Bellew JW, Michlovitz SL, Nolan TP. Michlovitz's Modalities for Therapeutic Intervention, Sixth Edition. Philadelphia, PA: F. A. Davis Company, 2016:399-434.

Posters:

Singh H, **Johnston TE**, Modlesky CM. Do Skeletal Effects of Functional Electrical Stimulation Cycling Paradigm at Low Cadence Differ in Cervical vs Thoracic Spinal Cord Injury? American Spinal Injury Association, April 2016.

Janette Scardillo, Cathy Lee, Megan Shultz, Alexandra Davis, Katie-Rae Hunsicker. The Most Effective and Efficient Bedside Exam for the Dizzy Patient in the Acute

Care Setting: A Systematic Review of the Literature. Presented at APTA NEXT. June, 2016. Nashville, TN.

Student News:

Cathy Lee was selected the 2016 recipient of the APTA Minority Scholarship. The presentation was made at NEXT Conference in Nashville in June.

Third year DPT students, **Kristin Reardon, Danielle Melfi, Victoria Dean, Kathleen Clancy, Lauren Bilski** and their faculty research advisor, **Louis N. Hunter, PT, DPT**, were awarded second place for their capstone project poster entitled “Application of Dual Task Performance in Pediatrics and Adults with Traumatic Brain Injury.” Presented at the BIAPA’s annual conference, June 26th-28th, 2016 in Lancaster, PA.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Faculty News

Associate Professor and Department Vice Chair Debbie Miller, PT, MBA, FACHE, facilitated discussions about health policy, practice management and leadership curricular themes, deployment methods and resources during Arcadia University's Health Policy & Practice Management Faculty Institute August 12-13, 2016, in Glenside, PA.

The American Public Health Association/Chiropractic Health Care Section has named Associate Professor Michael Schneider, DC, PhD, as a 2016 Distinguished Service Award recipient for his efforts to advance the chiropractic profession through his research related to public health. He is one of the first recipients of a research grant from the new Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute to research the effectiveness of non-surgical treatments for lumbar spinal stenosis.

Student News

The DPT students presented to 105 high school students attending a month-long University Health Career Scholars Academy during the summer. Interactive and informative sessions were created to interest the high school students in a physical therapy career. The effort to promote the physical therapy profession is one of the goals of the department, university and APTA.

DPT Class of 2018 students Katie Dreger and Maggie Anzalone are the winners of two APTA memberships donated by Pitt alumnus Michael Gans in an effort to promote professionalism within the university PT academic community. The students won the memberships based on a drawing of entries by participating in community and professional development activities in 2015-2016, such as the APTA Combined Sections Meeting, Pitt-Marquette Challenge, Jingle Bell Run for Arthritis, Three Rivers Adaptive Sports, Special Olympics, senior bingo, Wheelchair Wash, and other events to help others. Gans has donated two student memberships each year since presenting his keynote address for the Professional Pledge Ceremony.

UNIVERSITY OF THE SCIENCES

Department of Physical Therapy Annual Leahy Seminar

- **Thursday, October 6th, 2016 5-8 PM**
- The topic is: Facilitating Mobility Participation in Pediatrics. Earn 2.5 CEUs and honor the memory of Professor Leahy. All proceeds to benefit the Patricia Leahy Scholarship.
- Contact Greg Thielman at g.thielm@uscience.edu for more information

Department of Physical Therapy DPT 10th Anniversary Celebration and CE Program

- **Saturday, November 5th, 2016**
- Distinguished USciences faculty and alumni presenters
- Contact Eric Folkins at e.folkins@uscience.edu for more information

Student Awards (2016 Graduates):

- **William B. Inverso, Jr. Award**
Lindsay Bunyard, Alex Ruiz-Cortez, Danielle Hoguet, Julia McGlynn and Meghan Weisbecker
- **The Packman Family Award in Physical Therapy**
Julia McGlynn
- **The Physical Therapy Faculty Award**
Sarah Lodge

Faculty Awards:

- Kimberly D.Ward, PT, DPT, MPH, PCS received this year's Leahy award for Learning Innovations

Faculty Highlights:

- Lora Packel PhD, PT, CCS, Associate Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy was named Vice Chair after serving previously as Interim Vice Chair.
- Carol Maritz, PT, EdD, GCS, Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy returned from 6 month's sabbatical in July 2016, and was named Associate Dean for Samson College at the University of the Sciences.

- Marc Campolo, PT, PhD, SCS, ATC, CSCS Chair, Department of Physical Therapy, Associate Dean, Samson College was promoted from associate professor of physical therapy to associate professor of physical therapy with tenure.

PPTA LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

Greg Waite

814-796-3400

gwaite7@hotmail.com

President Elect

Colleen Chancler

215-490-8512

colleen.chancler@uphs.upenn.edu

Vice President

Scott Voshell

484-227-3037

voshpt@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Jeff Welk

412-748-5264

welkj@upmc.edu

Secretary

Jane Oeffner

484-596-5746

oeffnerj@mlhs.org

Chief Delegate

Robin Dole

610-499-1277

rldole@widener.edu

Member-at-Large

Kara Kobal

814-471-1131

kkobal@francis.edu

Student Liaison to the Board

Lauren Bilski

570-592-8209

lmb033@jefferson.edu

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

Northcentral

Chris Jones

570-662-1400

pptancdptofficer@gmail.com

Northeast

Elizabeth Troese

610-438-3708

elizabethmarine@yahoo.com

Northwest

Beth Gustafson

814-871-7709

gustafso006@gannon.edu

Southcentral

Penny Samuelson

717-272-5006

craig.pen@verizon.net

Southeast

Bob Wellmon

610-246-6065

wellmon@comcast.net

Southwest

Jamie Dunlap Coates

724-830-8750

jamedunlapcoates@gmail.com

Westcentral
Kara Kobal
814-471-1131
kkobal@francis.edu

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Awards
Kara Kobal
814-471-1131
kkobal@francis.edu

Conference & Continuing Education
Shannon Scanlan
814-569-6723
smlst6@gmail.com

Ethics
Mary Ann Wharton
814-472-3867
mawhartonpt@gmail.com

Membership
Susan Kreinbrook
412-826-2717
kreinbrook@gmail.com

Nominating
Jeff Rothman
412-600-3886
rothjs@upmc.edu

Practice & Research
Craig Ruby
724-344-7244
craigruby@gmail.com

Public Policy & Advocacy

Ivan Mulligan

814-472-3123

ivanmulligan@msn.com

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP CHAIRS

Acute Care

Melissa Lesser (Co-Chair)

717-817-8327

Melissa.Lesser@uphs.upenn.edu

Derek Zaleski (Co-Chair)

609-206-3372

Derek.Zaleski@uphs.upenn.edu

Geriatric

Sarah Jameson

412-874-0776 (cell)

sarahjameson@verizon.net

Neurologic

Sara Hershberger

schwartzs@upmc.edu

Pediatric

Lisa Mackell

610-436-3600

lmackell@theraplayinc.com

Physical Therapist Assistants

Doug Slick

610-223-4707

dougslick@comcast.net

Private Practice
Jennifer Green-Wilson
585-747-9622
jennwlson@aol.com

MISCELLANEOUS

PA PT PAC
Claire Peasley, Treasurer
484-636-4919
peasley.claire@gmail.com

Payment Specialist
Carole Galletta
412-266-8717
csgalletta@gmail.com

Legal Counsel
J. Kent Culley
412-594-5520
kculley@tuckerlaw.com

Paul Welk
412-594-5536
pwelk@tuckerlaw.com

Chapter Office:
1-800-962-7782
Kim Annibali, Executive Director
kannibali@ppta.org
Cindy Gardner, Bookkeeper
cgardner@ppta.org
Toni Annibali, Administrative Assistant
tannibali@ppta.org