

Physical Therapy Board of California

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APPROVED MEETING MINUTES ASSISTIVE PERSONNEL TASK FORCE April 18, 2008

Department of Consumer Affairs
Lake Tahoe Conference Room
2005 Evergreen Street.
Sacramento, CA 95815
(916) 561-8200

Friday, April 18, 2008

9:15 A.M. to 4:00 PM

1. Call to Order and Roll Call – *Nancy Krueger, PT*

Ms. Krueger called the meeting of the Assistive Personnel Task Force to order at 9:20 a.m. Roll call was taken. Task force members Jim Dagostino, PT, Mitch Kaye, PT, Lorraine Kimura, PT, John Linberger, PTA, Katie Rath, PT, Deborah Seid, PT, Sara Takii, PT, Board Member and Jim Turner, Public Board Member were all present and a quorum was established.

2. Introduction of Assistive Personnel Task Force

Ms. Krueger invited the task force members to introduce themselves, specify their practice setting and share their experiences working with physical therapist assistants and physical therapy aides.

Mr. Hartzell informed the members of some of the issues raised necessitating the need for forming of the task force which were addressed as the meeting progressed.

3. Review supervision of assistive personnel to determine effectiveness as applied to current practice environments.

Ms. Krueger invited comments from the public as the task force reviewed all statutes and regulations governing the supervision of physical therapist assistants and physical therapy aides; the proposed practice act produced by the Physical Therapy Practice Act Task Force in 2006; the fourth edition of the Model Practice Act for Physical Therapy published by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy; the document titled Review of Physical Therapy Practice Acts and Rules on Supervision of PTA's, Aides and Other Assistive Personnel compiled by the Government Affairs Department of the American Physical Therapy Association, October 2005; and, declaratory opinions of the Physical Therapy Board of California.

Review of these documents and [sub sequential](#) discussions resulted in developing the following questions regarding the aide 1) should an aide do patient related tasks/patient

interventions; if yes, what tasks and under what level of supervision, define direct service and observation; 2) should the aide to physical therapist ratio remain the same; 3) how do the aide supervision requirements compare to those of a medical assistant; 4) should the aide document in the patient record; and, 5) should there be basic training requirements for the aide?

Questions arising out of discussion regarding the supervision of the physical therapist assistant were 1) should the physical therapist of record vs. the supervising physical therapist be defined separately; 2) delineate assessment/evaluative data; 3) define periodic in reference to degree of supervision; 4) should case conferencing be required more or less frequently?

The task force was assigned to research the practice acts of physician assistants and registered nurse practitioners to determine their applicability to physical therapist assistant supervision, as well as a comparison of the governing regulations of medical assistants to the physical therapy aide.

[Jim Dagostino and Mitch Kaye were charged with exploring other state regulations governing the supervision of the physical therapy aide.](#)

John Linberger was charged with providing a copy of the document titled Problem Solving Algorithm Utilized by PTA's in Patient/Client Intervention.

The task force set subsequent meeting dates for Fridays, August 1, 2008 and October 10, 2008 in Sacramento.

4. Public Comment

Ms. Erickson offered to research an article regarding patient screening by physical therapist assistants written by Nancy Watts in 1971. Other topics raised were whether there should be a different standard for the supervision of a physical therapist assistant or a physical therapy aide providing restorative versus wellness and should a physical therapist assistant be authorized to supervise a physical therapy aide.

5. Adjournment

Ms. Krueger adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m.