



Physical Therapy Board of California

STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY - ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, GOVERNOR

Physical Therapy Board of California

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APPROVED MEETING MINUTES ASSISTIVE PERSONNEL TASK FORCE August 6, 2009

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

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

Nancy Krueger called the Assistive Personnel Task Force meeting to order at 9:20 am. Task force members present: Mitch Kaye, Lorraine Kimura, Kathryn Rath, James Dagostino, Sara Takii, and Nancy Krueger. A quorum was established.

The minutes are to reflect John Linberger arrived approximately at 12:30 pm and was present to vote on all agenda items with the exception of agenda item 3.

2. Summary of Objectives Supporting Proposed Regulations – Nancy Krueger, PT

Ms. Krueger handed out a summary of the Assistive Personnel Task Force objectives from the previous meetings and the results of what occurred at those meetings.

3. Physical Therapy Aide Supervision Requirements

- a. Consideration of Comments Received on the Recommended Proposed Modified Language to the Physical Therapy Board of California
- b. Possible Revisions to the Proposed Modified Language

The task force reviewed the proposed language for section 1399 and agreed to remove section (5) from the proposed language as it is duplicated in section 1399.85.

MOTION: To adopt the proposed language for section 1399 as amended by removing section (5) from the proposed language as it is duplicated in section 1399.85 and to present the task force’s recommendations to the Board at the upcoming August meeting.

MOVED: James Dagostino SECOND: Mitch Kaye VOTE: 6-0

4. Physical Therapist Assistant Supervision Requirements

- a. Consideration of Comments Received on the Recommended Proposed Modified Language to the Physical Therapy Board of California
- b. Possible Revisions to the Proposed Modified Language

The task force discussed the comments received from the proposed language for 1398.44 that were solicited from the public. Topics of discussion were whether the regulation should define: physical therapist of record and supervising physical therapist; the responsibilities of the physical

therapist assistant; and to identify what the physical therapist assistant is not authorized to perform.

1398.44 Adequate Supervision of the Physical Therapist Assistant Defined.

1. A physical therapist shall at all times be responsible for all physical therapy services provided by the physical therapist assistant to assure that the physical therapist assistant does not function autonomously. The physical therapist has continuing responsibility to follow the progress of each patient and is responsible for determining which elements of a treatment plan may be assigned to a physical therapist assistant.

2. The physical therapist who performs the initial evaluation shall be the physical therapist of record. The physical therapist of record shall remain the physical therapist of record until a reassignment of that patient has occurred. A written system of transfer to the succeeding physical therapist is required.

3. The physical therapist assistant shall be able to identify, and communicate with, the physical therapist of record who can provide guidance in the treatment of patients to whom they are providing care.

4. A physical therapist assistant shall not:

- a) perform patient evaluations and reevaluations
- b) establish treatment plan and goals or change a plan of care
- c) write progress reports
- d) write a discharge summary
- e) be the sole physical therapy representative in any meeting where the patient's progress on a plan of care is being discussed and/or modified
- f) *supervise a physical therapy aide performing patient care*
- g) *patient treatment if there is ownership interest*

5. None of the prohibitions in 4(a)(c)(d) would prohibit a physical therapist assistant from collecting data related to current patient status. Data collected from standardized tests and measures performed by the physical therapist assistant may be included in the progress and discharge summaries.

6. A physical therapist assistant shall:

- a) document each treatment in the patient record, along with his or her signature.
- b) notify the physical therapist of record, and document in the patient record, any change in the patient's condition not within the planned progress or treatment goals or any change in the patient's general condition that would require the physical therapist to perform a reevaluation.

MOVED: To approve the new proposed language and to present the language to the Board at the upcoming August meeting.

MOTION: James Dagostino Second: Kathryn Rath Vote: 7-0

5. Discussion and Recommendations Regarding Wellness and Need for Regulations

The task force deferred this item to the next Assistive Personnel Task Force meeting.

6. Provider Identification or Designation for Assistive Personnel, including Personnel in Training

The task force discussed the use of intern vs. student. Ms. Marco reported she surveyed the physical therapist and physical therapist assistant programs and received four responses back indicating that they use the term "student" for when their students are performing their clinical internships.

MOTION: To recommend to the Board to direct staff to write regulations deleting the title "intern" and maintaining only the term "student".

MOVED: Sarah Takii Second: James Dagostino Vote: 7-0

The task force agreed that section 1399.85 needed to be revised to address all patient care shall be documented by the physical therapist, physical therapist assistant, and physical therapy aide so that the documentation requirements would not need to be duplicated in other regulations.

1399.85. Patient Records

(a) A physical therapist shall document in the patient record the following:

- (1) Examination and re-examination
- (2) Evaluation, when the patient is to be reevaluated and the reevaluation
- (3) Diagnosis
- (4) Prognosis and intervention
- (5) Treatment plan and modification of the plan of care
- (6) Each treatment provided
- (7) Discharge summary

~~Each entry shall be dated and signed by the treating physical therapist. Adjacent to the treating physical therapist's signature or at least on every page if there are multiple entries on a single page shall be the printed or stamped name of the treating physical therapist.~~

b) the patient record shall indicate the date of service and identify the name and title of the individual(s) who provided the care.

MOTION: To approved the recommended language to be presented to the Board at the August meeting.

MOVED: James Dagostino SECOND: Mitch Kaye VOTE: 7-0

7. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The task force scheduled the next meeting for October 23, 2009 in Sacramento.

The task force's recommendation is to take action on what is recommended by the Board at the August meeting and to continue defining the physical therapist role in wellness.

8. Public Comment

There was no public comment received.

The Assistive Personnel Task Force meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

MOTION: To approve the August 6, 2009 meeting minutes as written.

MOVED: Ms. Dagostino SECOND: Mr. Kaye VOTE: 8-0 Motion carried.