President’s Message

I feel a sense of community among those in our profession on a daily basis. The other morning on my early morning walk, I ran into 3 different PTs on their runs prior to work. My PTA teaches Jazzercise when I am able to go in the afternoon. It gives me such a good feeling knowing those in our circle take fitness to heart and practice what we preach.

I feel a sense of community at state meetings, and this Fall’s meeting was one of the best, as I sat back and listened to groups engaged and networking. There were folks in their 60’s who were in the same PT class together, telling wild stories of when they were students. There were groups from the same geographic districts in our state networking about how they can help cover their area by being Key Contacts. There were committees of like-minded PTs, PTAs, and students meeting to share commonalities. And in the bar after hours, well, let’s just say the stories are good ones! We really like to “talk PT” when we get together, and we all share a common bond.

Now is the time for us in Louisiana to bond together in one large community to work toward a strong network of Key Contacts to be the go-to physical therapy person for your Senator or Representative in your district. See accompanying article on how you can get involved.

(continued on page 6)

Respectfully submitted by:
Beth Ward, PT, DPT

What are YOU Doing for NPTM?

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what is PT4PT.org?
LPTA MEMBERSHIP

Please continue to encourage your fellow PTs, PTAs and students to join or renew their APTA/LPTA membership!

“Each One Reach One!”

Active members
Current 753

Life Members
Current 30

Students
Current 260

PTAs
Current 145

Total
Current 1,188

What would Sophia think to find out you’re still not a member? mmmhmm

Bayou Bulletin Publisher Information

The Bayou Bulletin is published six times a year by the LPTA. Copy and advertising inquiries should be directed to LPTA. Advertising rate sheets and deadlines for each issue are available upon request.

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National Student Conclave
Attending NSC provides you with the opportunity to attend the following can’t-miss events:
- Special-interest seminars covering topics including acute care, clinical electrophysiology and wound management, geriatrics, neurology, orthopaedics, pediatrics, sports physical therapy, and women’s health.
- Develop a framework for exploring career pathways and learn some of the core essentials required to pursue these options! Take advantage of opportunities to explore innovative career paths and fortuitous detours to taking the initial steps in identifying your preferred pathway as a new graduate entering the profession.
- Workshops on resume writing, interviewing skills, and small-group debt evaluation.
- An open discussion with APTA’s president, where you’ll find out what’s ahead for the profession.
- An exhibit hall that features employers, manufacturers, and publishers who are eager to speak with you.
- Network with colleagues, mentors, and other members of the profession at Special Events.

Combined Sections Meeting
The Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) focuses on programming designed by all 18 of APTA’s specialty sections.
CSM 2015 will bring together more than 10,000 physical therapy professionals from around the nation for several stimulating days of exceptional programming, networking opportunities, and an exhibit hall filled with products and services.

Congratulations to Louisiana’s Certified Clinical Specialists!

Amber Renee Anderson, PT, DPT, CLT, WCS
Heather Ashley, PT, OCS
Jamie Slater Canova, PT, OCS
Jon Jeremy Dye, PT, OCS
Lindsay B. Gordon, PT, DPT, OCS
Patrick T. Klester, PT, MPT, OCS
Britton Derek Moss, PT, MPT, OCS
Tabitha Chanel Rivers, PT, NCS
Travis Paul Toups, PT, DPT, OCS
Matthew Alan Armstrong, PT, OCS
Christopher Arthur Baracco, PT, OCS
Scott Allan Dickie, PT, DPT, COMT, OCS
Daniel Wade Flowers, PT, DPT, OCS
Ryan Thomas Hill, PT, OCS
James Michael LeBlanc, PT, OCS
Mattie Elizabeth Pontiff, PT, DPT, OCS
Keri Saint Thornton, PT, OCS
Tejas N. Vora, PT, DPT, OCS
Component Wrap Up!

Amelia Leonardi, Nominations Committee Chair

I would like to extend a huge thank you to all those who were slated to run for office this year! Thank you for your willingness to serve! The following officers and one delegate were elected at our fall meeting, September 20, 2014.

- President: Beth Ward
- Secretary: Jane Eason
- Government Affairs Committee Chair: Cristina Faucheux
- Nominations Committee Chair: Amelia Leonardi
- Delegate: Paul Hildreth
- Alternate Delegate: Kinta LeBlanc

Julie Danieles Harris, Shreveport District Chair

The Shreveport District is celebrating PT awareness month with our annual "Hustle for Your Health" Fun run/walk and our PT Pub night. Our 5K fun run is set on October 11th at 8 am at Bickham Dickson Park. All proceeds will go to "Independence Regained", a private not for profit advocacy organization formed to raise funds to build a specialized spinal cord and traumatic brain injury rehab and research hospital in north Louisiana. So come and support your district and also give back to this great cause. Our PT pub night is also scheduled for Wednesday, October 8th, at 5:30 and the hosting restaurant/bar will be Twisted Root Burger Co. We are planning a great night for all PT's, PTA's and students for great drinks and conversations. We have also invited our state legislatures for this Pub Night so hopefully we will have a great crowd to bring PT awareness to our government officials.

Claire Melebeck, Public Relations/Newsletter Chair

Ask and you shall receive...the LPTA is “Going Green”! If you would like to opt out of receiving the paper version of the Bayou Bulletin and other snail mail reminders, please email the office at office@lpta.org or myself at cmeleb1@gmail.com to go green! Note that every year the July-August Edition of the BB is sent out to all practicing clinicians (even non-members) and will still go out in hard copy form. Thank you for your interest in GOING GREEN!

Alicia Pruitt, Membership Chair

I hope everyone enjoyed the fall meeting! It was great to see everyone for the courses and the business meeting. We had quite a few colleagues who are not members of the APTA/LPTA present. Please consider talking to them at our meetings and in the workplace about what you specifically value in your membership. Tell them how the APTA/LPTA works for you. Show them how you continue to improve your practice with the help APTA/LPTA resources. We are stronger for our patients and ourselves when we work together! Don’t forget to bring it up.
Alix Sorrel, Lafayette District Chair

Join us for Lafayette District meeting on October 23, 2014 and have a chance to win a $50 gift card to Tri-Running. A representative from this local shoe store will be presenting the types of shoes carried along with information on the services they offer and how they can help our patient’s in any work setting. One person attending will win a $50 gift card to the store. Come network with colleagues in honor of Physical Therapy Month!

Danielle Morris, Baton Rouge District Chair

The Baton Rouge District is celebrating PT month by hosting a Meet and Greet with Legislators on Tuesday October 21, for an evening of networking and fun! We are also moving forward with pairing legislators with key contacts (PTs/PTAs) and are establishing relationships within our community. We encourage all other districts to join us!

Also please welcome Ayodeji Famuyide as our new Baton Rouge District Membership Committee Representative....thank you for your willingness to serve!

New Orleans District Report

The New Orleans District had a great district meeting on September 24! We reviewed all of the important updates from the LPTA Board Meeting, Business Meeting, and the Government Affairs Meeting. For National Physical Therapy Month, Allison Daly did an incredible job of outlining a 4.5 week plan to push advocacy and consumer awareness of the Physical Therapy Profession. We also elected a new District Co-Chair— congratulations Tommy Weber, PT, DPT! Robbie Banta will be the New Orleans District Government Affairs Representative, thank you Robbie for stepping up! Finally, we are still looking for a district member to serve on the Finance Committee and one to serve on the Nominations Committee. If you are interested and willing to serve, please email Allison at allisonmdalydpt@me.com or Tommy at tweberpt@gmail.com.

State Policy and Payment Forum

This year’s State Policy and Payment Forum in Seattle, Washington, once again informed and recharged physical therapists (PTs), physical therapist assistants, and physical therapy students from across the country to help them continue to advocate for the physical therapy profession at the state level.

Cohosted by APTA and the Washington Chapter, the 2014 forum gave more than 200 attendees the opportunity to learn from influential public policy makers and other physical therapy advocates, collaborate with colleagues in developing and improving their components’ state advocacy efforts, and network with other professionals. Topics included fair physical therapy copay legislation, a debate on the merits of “any willing provider” legislation, issues surrounding network adequacy, emerging scope of practice issues, PTs’ ordering of x-rays and imaging studies, dry needling, state licensure issues, and more.

The forum’s luncheon keynote speaker was Mark McClellan, MD, PhD, a senior fellow and director of the Health Care Innovation and Value Initiative at the Brookings Institution. A former administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and former commissioner of the US Food and Drug Administration, McClellan focuses his current work on promoting quality and value in patient-centered health care.

Louisiana had amazing representation in Seattle including our President Beth Ward, our Government Affairs Chair Cristina Faucheux, our Payment Chair Rusty Eckel as well as members of our LaPT Board Danny Landry and Charlotte Martin (Executive Director). For more information, contact Rusty Eckel at rept22@yahoo.com.
Are you a little afraid of going to see your legislator? Our Governmental Affairs Committee has info for you and one of us will go with you your first time meeting, if you so desire. Remember, your legislators are just neighbors in your district with a desire to serve the citizenry. You can ask them what you can do for them, and can be that person they go to with any PT-related questions. You can help them with their campaigns. You can invite legislators to a PT Pub Night or to conduct a site visit at a local PT clinic. If we have a strong network of Key Contacts, then any legislative challenge or issue in this state will be handled much more smoothly based on the friendships we have made moving forward.

Did you know just by ordering electrodes you can support Louisiana’s PT-PAC? Yes, that’s right. Louisiana has collaborated with the group PT4PT.org to join in this passive PAC fundraiser. If you were at Fall Meeting, you got a sample pack of electrodes in your packet. Check out their website at www.pt4pt.org to place your order, and 50 cents of every pack ordered goes to our PAC based on your choice at checkout. Money raised for the PAC helps us thank legislators for their support and helps us keep PT-friendly legislators in office!

We are slowly moving toward the Louisiana Chapter adding a 6th delegate, and with your help, we can reach that milestone as we continue to grow our ranks after Hurricane Katrina. When it comes time for renewal, please fill out the form and proudly send in your money that helps APTA and LPTA do what we do for members and non-members. Please be an ambassador and encourage others to join their association. Each and every member who renews or re-joins matters! Thank you for being a member, as you are making a difference every day.

APTA Student Membership Benefits

Part of a physical therapy student’s education involves knowing the contraindications and indications of a certain PT practice. In the way that most things in life are never absolutely black or white, the appropriateness of a PT practice often seems to fall in a grey area for students because of our inexperience. There are so many outside factors to consider before deciding to use a skill, that it can become confusing. For this reason, using the “Practice and Patient Care” tab on the APTA website as a guide can be tremendously helpful. Whether you have a minor homework assignment or a scary practical exam looming in your future, an APTA membership provides access to a “Practice and Patient Care” section that can help you wipe out that uncertainty you feel towards a topic, and allow you to confidently come to a decision regarding the use of a PT practice.

First arrive at the APTA homepage and notice the “Practice and Patient Care” tab at the top. Click on this tab and scroll down to a section titled “Patient Care”, which will bring you to a page of a variety of topics to choose from. Balance and falls, oxygen administration, total brain injury and seating and wheeled mobility are just some of the topics to choose from. Under each topic are lists of links that can help you find the information you are seeking. Whether you are seeking clinical practice guidelines, APTA position statements on those more precarious practices, patient or advocacy resources to give to patients in need of outside support, or recent articles with discoveries relevant to your topic, the “Patient Care” section is an immensely helpful and underutilized tool for school. In addition to this section, there is also an “Evidence and Research” section that has a nifty article search portal. Ultimately, students should explore the APTA’s website because there is much to discover there.

Respectfully Submitted by: Bel Erten, SSIG
MEMBERS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE PHYSICAL THERAPY PROFESSION, CONTACT YOUR GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS DISTRICT LIAISON TODAY TO SEE HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

The LPTA’s focus for the next 4 months is building relationships with our state legislators. Having a key contact who is willing to partner with a legislator and be a resource to them will help us become more organized and send a unified message when it is necessary to oppose or push a bill. Without this basic foundation in place, it will be difficult for the LPTA to pass bills or defeat bills that are not in our patients’ or our profession’s best interest. As healthcare continues to evolve, we will definitely see emerging professions/other groups pursue legislation that widens their scope of practice into areas that are generally considered an inherent part of our profession or changes to your practice environment.

Election year is upon us and our legislative friends need our help. For those who will be new to the legislature, now is the time to start building relationships. District Governmental Affairs Liaisons are actively recruiting PT/PTAs to commit to being a key contact for Legislators in their District. Training to help someone feel comfortable preparing for those visits and talking points will be shared with our Key Contacts. Initial visits with legislators would mainly be a “meet and greet” type of atmosphere. Simply, a basic introduction and explanation of what physical therapy entails. Another great option is to invite a legislator to your physical therapy clinic/office. This gives the legislator a great sense and working knowledge of our profession! If you already have this type of relationship with your legislator, LET US KNOW! You can be a valuable resource to your Legislator and your profession!

For more information on being a key contact or other legislative concerns, feel free to contact your GA District Liaison or email me at Cristina@moreaupt.com

Baton Rouge: Karl Kleinpeter, karlkleinpeter@aol.com
Houma: Eddie Himel, eddiehimel@att.net
Alexandria: Oday Lavergne, olavergne@leegateway.net
Lafayette: Errol Leblanc, errol.leblanc@lhgroup.com
Lake Charles: Danny Landry, landrydp@aol.com
North shore: Troy Bourgeois, troymsc@yahoo.com
New Orleans: Robbie Banta, robanta@hotmail.com
Shreveport: Daniel Flowers, dflowe@lsuhsc.edu
Monroe: Michael Hildebrand, Michael.hildebrand87@gmail.com

Respectfully Submitted by: Cristina Faucheux, Government Affairs Chair

www.PT4PT.org

Raise funds for Louisiana PT PAC by purchasing electrodes through PT4PT! 50cents of each $1.97 pack purchased go to the State PAC...
Education Leadership Fellowship Opportunities Available

New and emerging physical therapist (PT) and physical therapist assistant (PTA) academic, residency, and fellowship directors will once again have an opportunity to hone their leadership skills through a one-of-a-kind learning program now accepting applications.

APTA’s American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education’s (ABPTRFE) accredited Education Leadership Institute (ELI) Fellowship is a yearlong invitational learning experience designed to instruct early-career directors in facilitating change, thinking strategically, and engaging in efforts to advance the physical therapy profession. The program is a blended learning experience that combines online and onsite instruction with experienced mentorship.

Applicants to the program are selected based on the strength of their applications and meeting all eligibility criteria. Application submission deadline is December 1, 2014, at 5:00 pm ET. To learn more about the program, visit the ELI webpage.

ELI is a collaborative program with ABPTRFE, the American Council of Academic Physical Therapy, the APTA Education Section, the Physical Therapist Assistant Educators Special Interest Group, and APTA.

APTA’s Honors and Awards Program Accepting Nominations

Help your colleagues or students receive the recognition they deserve by nominating them for an APTA national honor or award.

Each year APTA celebrates members’ outstanding achievements in the areas of education, practice and service, publications, research, academic excellence, the Catherine Worthingham Fellows of APTA, the Mary McMillan Lecture, and the John H.P. Maley Lecture. Award recipients are recognized in June with a ceremony and reception at the NEXT Conference and Exposition.

The 2015 call for nominations is now open and will close December 1, 2014. The electronic submission process is quick and easy; go to APTA’s Honors and Awards page, and click on the specific honor, award, or scholarship to obtain guidelines, requirements, and a link to the online submission site.

WCPT President, Vice President Candidates Announced

Candidates for World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT) president and vice president have been announced and will be finalized at the confederation’s General Meeting.

One candidate has been announced for each position. Emma Stokes, currently WCPT’s vice president, has been nominated for president by WCPT member organizations in Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Ireland, Japan, Lebanon, Malta, Norway, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Taiwan, United Kingdom and the US. Margot Skinner, the Executive Committee member from the Asia Western Pacific Region of WCPT, has been nominated for vice president by member organizations in Bermuda, New Zealand, and Singapore.

While there is only 1 candidate for each position, it is WCPT’s practice to hold a ballot at the General Meeting. Over the coming weeks, further information about both candidates will be published in WCPT News and on the WCPT website. Candidate CVs and statements will also be included in the General Meeting papers. The new term of office will begin at the close of WCPT Congress 2015 in Singapore in May. APTA is a member organization of WCPT.
After Record Low Rates of Increase, Health Spending Likely to Rise by 6% Annually Over the Next Decade

After historically low rates of growth in the wake of the Great Recession, health care spending is projected to rise by 5.6% in 2014, and will likely see average growth rates of 6% 2015–2023, according to a new report from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) published in Health Affairs.

A gradually improving economy and aging baby boomers will serve as primary drivers in the increased spending, which will be offset to a degree by "slower growth in Medicare payment rates mandated by health law, cuts made to hospitals and doctors in the congressional budget-cutting efforts, and the increasing use of higher deductibles in private insurance plans," according to a report from Kaiser Health News.

The CMS report received widespread coverage, and nearly as interesting as the report itself is a Kaiser Health News summary of how various news outlets chose to characterize the predictions as everything ranging from the numbers confirming that "a feared surge in spending isn't happening" (Politico) to the predictions describing "substantial increases over the next decade, expected to be driven by increased coverage due to the Affordable Care Act" (Fox News).

2015 Capitol Hill Day Will Be Combined with NEXT Conference

In 2015, the Federal Capitol Hill Day will be combined with the APTA House of Delegates and NEXT Conference and Exposition in National Harbor, Maryland. The event will be a truncated version of the Federal Advocacy Forum and will be held on June 3 and 4. APTA will pay the airfare and hotel costs for Federal Affairs Liaisons to attend the event. As you are preparing your 2015 budgets, please consider allocating funds for your delegates to stay an extra night to participate in the rally and Capitol Hill Day. Questions, please contact Michael Matlack.
APT A Fraud and Abuse Course Available for Free Online

The APTA Learning Center now offers “Navigating the Regulatory Environment: Ensuring Compliance While Promoting Professional Integrity” free to all members and non-members. The 2-part course includes an audio roundtable, with experience and knowledgeable presenters reviewing topics such as laws and regulations related to health care fraud and abuse, along with interactive case vignette drawn from real-world situations to illustrate types of Medicare fraud or abuse involving physical therapy services. For access and to register, visit this Learning Center page.

‘Choosing Wisely’ List Subject of Move Forward Radio Episode

APTA’s contribution to the national Choosing Wisely campaign, released earlier this week, is designed to encourage conversations between physical therapists (PTs) and patients to avoid waste and improve care. Move Forward radio is helping to get that conversation started.

To help consumers understand the list and be better informed, Move Forward Radio dedicated an episode to the list of "5 Things That Physical Therapists and Patients Should Question." 'It's really important that patients be involved in decision making about their care, and that they're really comfortable asking questions about the care that's recommended for them,' APTA's senior director of clinical practice and research, Nancy White, PT, DPT, OCS, told Move Forward Radio.

In the episode, Tara Jo Manal, PT, DPT, OCS, SCS, discusses each of the "5 Things" and explains terminology and concepts found in the list such as "passive physical agents," "under-dosed strength-training programs," and "continuous passive motion machines."

Manal emphasizes that it isn't a list of 5 things that should always be forbidden.

"which we have really moved past in current practice," the list is about setting the stage for informed conversations. "It's important that patients realize that this list ... is not a list of things that are inherently dangerous," she says. "They really are things that should be discussed."

"If a therapist is doing interventions that are on this list, I think it's a very reasonable conversation to say, 'Is this really adding to my rehabilitation?' Or, 'Maybe we can spend our time [together] in a more productive way?'"

PTs are encouraged to use the resources at MoveForwardPT.com to share the Choosing Wisely information with their patients and clients.

Move Forward Radio airs approximately twice a month. Episodes are featured and archived at MoveForwardPT.com, APTA's official consumer information website, and can be streamed online via Blog Talk Radio or downloaded as podcasts via iTunes.

TBI Reauthorization Now Approved by Both Houses of Congress

Government-sponsored research and data collection on traumatic brain injury (TBI) has support from both houses of Congress, now that the US Senate has approved the TBI Reauthorization Act (S. 2539). The House passed its version of the legislation earlier this summer. APTA was among the organizations advocating for the bills.

(continued on page 11)
Legislation that would standardize data used across postacute care (PAC) settings has now passed in both houses of Congress and could soon become part of larger reforms. APTA has been working to influence this legislation.

The Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation (IMPACT) Act now approved by both the House and Senate would instruct the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to standardize patient assessment data, quality, and resource use measures for PAC providers including home health agencies (HHAs), skilled nursing facilities (SNFs), inpatient rehabilitation facilities (IRFs), and long-term care hospitals (LTCHs).

The House passed the legislation last week by voice vote. Late on September 18, the Senate did the same.

APTA and other supporters of the legislation believe standardization would allow HHS to compare quality across PAC settings, improve hospital and PAC discharge planning, and use this standardized data to reform PAC payments in the future.

The legislation will:
- Require PAC providers to begin reporting standardized patient assessment data at times of admission and discharge by October 1, 2018, for SNFs, IRFs, and LTCHs and by January 1, 2019, for HHAs.
- Require new quality measures on domains beginning October 1, 2016, through January 1, 2019, including functional status, skin integrity, medication reconciliation, incidence of major falls, and patient preference regarding treatment and discharge.
- Require resource use measures by October 1, 2016, including Medicare spending per beneficiary, discharge to community, and hospitalization rates of potentially preventable readmissions.
- Require the Secretary of HHS to provide confidential feedback reports to providers. The Secretary will make PAC performance available to the public in future years.
- Require MedPAC and HHS to study alternative PAC payment models due to Congress in 2016 and 2021-2022, respectively.
- Require the Secretary to develop processes using data to assist providers and beneficiaries with discharge planning from inpatient or PAC settings.

The congressional committees have provided a summary (.pdf), including timelines.
Bill Introduced in Senate Would Allow PTs to Bring in Another PT During Absences

A version of a bill that would allow physical therapists (PTs) in private practice to provide Medicare patients continuity of care in the PT's absence has been introduced in the US Senate. Like its companion bill introduced in the US House of Representatives last year, the Prevent Interruptions in Physical Therapy Act (H.R. 3426/S. 2818) would expand so-called "locum tenens" arrangements to include PTs.

Locum tenens provisions allow health care providers to bring in another licensed provider to treat Medicare patients and bill Medicare through the practice provider number during temporary absences for illness, pregnancy, vacation, or continuing medical education. Current law only extends locum tenens to doctors of medicine, osteopathy, dental surgery, podiatric medicine, optometry, and chiropractic, forcing PTs in private practice to avoid absences or risk gaps in patient and client care.

APTA and its Private Practice Section (PPS) collaborated on pressing for the legislation which was introduced by Sens Chuck Grassley (IA) and Bob Casey (PA). "This legislation seeks to eliminate an unnecessary limitation on our ability to practice and provide excellent continuous care," said PPS President Tom DiAngelis, PT, DPT. "We commend Senators Grassley and Casey for taking an important step to ensure a patient's access to uninterrupted physical therapy."

APTA has advocated for this issue as an easy technical fix bill that should be linked to larger Medicare reforms that are moving through congress. The locum tenens legislation has continued to gain awareness and cosponsorship in the House, and APTA will now advocate for Senate support.

APTA will monitor the progress of the bill and will post updates to its locum tenens webpage.

New Website Highlights Integrity in Physical Therapy Practice

A new website launched by APTA will support the profession’s effort to eliminate fraud, abuse, and waste in the health care system.

The APTA Center for Integrity in Practice website houses information on how physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, and students can continue to uphold the profession's high standards.

Resources include information on the recently-released Choosing Wisely® list of “5 Things Physical Therapists and Patients Should Question;” a primer on preventing fraud, abuse, and waste; a free course on compliance; and other information on regulation and payment systems, evidence-based practice, ethics, professionalism, and fraud prevention.

The site is part of the association's Integrity in Practice Campaign, a broad initiative that seeks to position physical therapy as a leader in responsible patient-centered care.

Plans are for the website to continue expanding its offerings, and APTA is seeking partners to share resources, work together on advocacy, and possibly develop joint educational offerings to bring the message of practice integrity to the widest possible audience.
75% of US Adults 45 and Older Not Meeting Strength Training Requirements

Only about one-quarter of US adults over 45 are meeting federal recommendations for strength training—and the percentages drop even lower in certain age and other demographic groups, according to a new study from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Researchers for the CDC used data from the 2011 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System to examine the strength training activities of more than 333,000 adults 45 and over. What they found was that only 23.7% of the population met the US Department of Health and Human Services recommendation that adults 45 and older participate in activities targeting all major muscle groups at least 2 days per week.

While no subgroup studied met the goal, variations did exist. Among those variations:

- When compared with respondents 45-54 years old (26% compliance), individuals aged 55-64 were 10% less likely to meet strength training recommendations. The 65-74 age group was 8% less likely than the youngest cohort, and those aged 75-84 were about 20% less likely to meet the goals than the 45-54 group, with a compliance rate of 20.2%.
- Normal-weight respondents (BMI of 18.5-24.9) met the recommendations at a 30.2% rate; overweight (BMI of 25-29.9) reported a 24.9% rate, obese individuals (BMI of 30 or more) reported a rate of 19.9%. Underweight individuals (BMI of 18.5 or below) reported a 24.2% compliance rate.
- Females (21.9%) were less likely to meet the goals than males (25.9%).
- College graduates had a 34.2% compliance rate, compared with an 18.5% rate among those with high school diplomas only and a 14.4% rate among respondents with less than a high school diploma.
- Individuals with annual income over $50,000 complied at 30.6%, with rates declining as income declined. Those reporting income less than $15,000 per year only had a 16% compliance rate.

"Our findings indicate that there continues to be a precipitous decline in participation in muscle strengthening activities associated with aging, and that this decline does not stop at age 65," authors write. "The information gained through this research could be used to help identify which sociodemographic subgroups are most in need [of intervention]."

The importance of appropriate strength training was acknowledged in APTA’s recently released list of "5 Things Physical Therapists and Patients Should Question" created as part of the American Board of Internal Medicine Foundation’s Choosing Wisely® campaign. The list of APTA recommendations includes one that advises against under-dosed strength training for older adults, and instead promotes matching "frequency, intensity, and duration of exercise to the individual's abilities and goals."

CMS Says Keep Using 59 Modifier For Now

Until you receive further notice, keep on using the 59 modifier in reimbursement claims to indicate that a health care common procedural code (HCPCS) represents a service that is separate and distinct from another service to which it is paired under the Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) program—that’s the bottom line from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), which recently responded to an inquiry from APTA as to when—and whether—physical therapists should use a set of new modifiers announced by CMS in August.

The clarification was forwarded to APTA by CMS after some physical therapists questioned whether they should begin using the new modifiers. The CMS answer: not yet.

In August, CMS issued a transmittal describing new modifiers—XE, XS, XP, and XU—intended to be used to define subsets of the 59 modifier. The new modifier codes have not been implemented, and CMS has advised that PTs should not use the modifiers until they receive further notice.
Study: Functional Restoration Initiated Early Results in Big Savings

When it comes to interdisciplinary functional restoration (FR) for chronic disabling occupational musculoskeletal disorders (CDOMDs), the earlier the better, according to a new study, which found that FR programs initiated within the first 8 months after the disabling event can lead to health care and economic cost savings of up to 72%, or about $170,000 per claim.

The study, e-published ahead of print September 7 in the *Journal of Occupational Rehabilitation* (abstract only available for free), examined financial and socioeconomic outcomes from 1,119 participants with CDOMDs who received FR at different points from the onset of CDOMD—one group 4-8 months afterwards, a second group 9-18 months afterwards, and a third group receiving FR after 18 months. The groups were matched for demographics and injured musculoskeletal regions.

Researchers looked at outcomes 1 year after rehabilitation and found that in terms of return-to-work rates, work retention percentages, and additional health care utilization, all 3 groups were similar, with overall rates of 88% for return to work, 80% for work retention, and small rates of additional health care utilization.

However, big differences were uncovered when the authors looked at overall medical costs and disability benefits/productivity losses, with the early-intervention group demonstrating savings of 64% and 80%, respectively, over the intermediate and late-FR groups. Additionally, researchers estimated that the actual cost of rehabilitation was up to 56% less when FR was initiated early on.

"Early rehabilitation is more likely to be a cost-effective solution compared to cases that progress [for 8 months or more] and receive FR as a treatment of 'last resort,'" authors write.

In addition to cost-savings, authors write that early FR "may potentially prevent or mitigate the development of complex psychosocial barriers to treatment, including depression, narcotic dependence, and complex sequelae of comorbid psychopathology."

While authors acknowledge several limitations to their study—for instance, the study did not include the costs of prescription medications used during the postrehabilitation period—they write that the findings "are consistent with the general principle ... that one of the 'first principles to avoid delayed recovery' is critical in enhancing cost-effectiveness of care for acute and chronic musculoskeletal disorders."

Suggestions for APTA Board, Nominating Committee Due By November 3

As APTA continues to grow, so does its need for exceptional leaders. Anyone come to mind? Maybe you? The APTA Nominating Committee is seeking recommendations for the 2015 slate of candidates for elected positions. Positions open for election are Board of Directors president, vice president, and 3 directors; and 1 Nominating Committee member.

Use the online nomination form to submit the names of qualified members who would be willing to be considered for the upcoming election cycle. Deadline is November 3.

Now's the time. Reach out to a leader you think should take those talents to a national level for APTA, and who's ready to guide the association through some exciting years ahead.
New Program on Early Mobilization of ICU Patients Seeks Participants

Physical therapists have long been aware of the importance of early mobilization and rehabilitation for patients in a hospital intensive care unit (ICU). Now a new program is recruiting hospitals to participate in a project to spread that understanding by facilitating practices that can more quickly liberate patients from mechanical ventilation and move them out of the ICU.

The Comprehensive Unit-Based Safety Program (CUSP) for Mechanically Ventilated Patients (MVP) and Ventilator Associated Pneumonia (VAP) is seeking so-called "coordinating entities" interested in participating in a 2-year program to prevent ventilator-associated events including VAP. A free 90-minute informational webinar on the program will be held on Monday, September 29, at 1:00 pm ET.

The program focuses on improvement in staff teamwork and communication, analysis of daily process measures, efforts to mobilize patients earlier, and employment of low tidal volume ventilation strategies. Project content will be delivered through webinars, e-mail, and as online resources, and all materials are available on the CUSP 4MVP VAP project website.

The initiative is funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and is being delivered in partnership with the Johns Hopkins Institute for Patient Safety and Quality, the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, the Department of Population Medicine at Harvard Medical School, and the Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute. APTA and its Acute Care Section provided consultation on the development of this program.

For more information, contact the project helpdesk at cusp4mvp@jhmi.edu.

“PTPN has been a great asset to my company, and I would definitely recommend it to any other practice because of all the built-in benefits PTPN brings.” — Cristina Faucheux, PT, Moreau Physical Therapy

PTPN members have access to more patients and more revenue through our contracts with major insurance providers, large employers and workers’ comp companies. PTPN will also:

> Save you thousands of dollars yearly through preferred vendor discounts.

> Advocate for fair pay & quality care via our lobbyist in Washington DC and the PTPN Political Action Center.

> Help you identify new revenue streams to counter declining reimbursements from other sources.

It pays to join PTPN. To learn more, contact Kim Bueche Hardman at 225-927-6888 or kbueche@ptpnla.brcoxmail.com.
Exercise Programs Likely to Help People with Lower Limb Amputations, But Best Combination Still Unclear

There is a need for more definitive and rigorous studies, say researchers, but a new systematic review of the effects of exercise programs on gait performance in people with lower limb amputations points to some positive connections—even if specifics were hard to come by.

The review, published in the September 28 issue of Prosthetics and Orthotics International (abstract only available for free), found 623 article citations for studies of gait among people with lower limb amputations and eventually whittled acceptable research down to 8 studies involving 199 participants. These studies allowed researchers to compare self-selected gait speed among patients who received specific functional exercise programs, but in the end they did not reveal a single exercise program or combination that could be deemed most effective.

Authors focused on self-selected gait speed as "the only consistent measure of gait performance" among the studies.

The actual degree of improvement difference was difficult to pin down, authors write, based in part on inconsistencies in the studies, and wide variation of exercise programs used. Still, they write, "The combined evidence suggests that a variety of different types of exercise can improve self-selected gait speed," and that "improvement in gait performance was seen throughout whether participants were in their third or seventh decade, and whether only men or men and women were combined." No study focused on women only.

The range of exercises in the studies included activities targeted at supervised walking, specific muscle strengthening, balance, gait training exercise, and functional training focusing on coordination exercises "beyond walking and stair negotiation." Exercise treatment duration ranged from 3 days to 14 months, and from 2 to 40 individual sessions of 30 to 90 minutes. Physical therapists were identified as treatment providers in all but 1 study, which did not specify who provided treatment.

"Little evidence consistently differentiated which type of exercise was most beneficial," authors write, although improvement occurred "whether most exercise was performed as an unsupervised home exercise program, in focused daily treatments provided within a single week, or in regular sessions spanning months."

Overall, authors write, the evidence reviewed is only sufficient for a "Grade B" recommendation to support the use of exercise programs that use a range of methods, meaning that more research work needs to be done before a solid analysis can be conducted. "No consensus on a best approach emerged," they write. "This review underscores the need for more and higher quality research into the clinical benefits of specific exercise programs in lower limb amputation rehabilitation."

National Physical Activity Plan Seeks Input on Revisions

APTA members have an opportunity to contribute to the first-ever revision of the National Physical Activity Plan (NPAP), a high-profile effort to create a comprehensive set of policies, programs, and initiatives to increase physical activity in all segments of the American population.

(continued on page 17)
Preoperative Physical Therapy Results in “Significant” Reduction in Postoperative Care Use for Patients Undergoing Hip or Knee Replacements

A new study has found that as few as 1 to 2 sessions of preoperative physical therapy can reduce postoperative care use by 29% for patients undergoing total hip or knee replacement, adding up to health care cost savings of more than $1,000 per individual.

Researchers in Ohio reviewed 4,733 Medicare cases involving total hip or knee replacement from a combination of 169 rural and urban hospitals with wide geographic distribution, and found that 79.7% percent of patients who did not receive preoperative physical therapy required postacute care services. That rate dropped to 54.2% for patients who received even a small number of physical therapy sessions before surgery. The study was e-published ahead of print in the Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery (abstract only available for free).

After adjusting for demographic variables and comorbidities, the study's authors estimated a 29% reduction in postoperative care use among the preoperative physical therapy group, which translated into adjusted cost reductions of $1,215 "driven largely by reduced payments for skilled nursing facility and home health agency care."

Patients with at least 1 billed encounter using CPT codes designating physical therapy evaluation or self-care/home management training were included in the preoperative group, providing they had received the service within 30 days of their surgeries.

Researchers believe that the benefit of preoperative physical therapy was derived mostly from the way it prepared patients for postoperative rehabilitation. In most instances studied, they write, preoperative physical therapy was limited to 1 or 2 sessions, which "suggests that the value of preoperative physical therapy was primarily due to patient training on postoperative assistive walking devices, planning for recovery, and managing patient expectations, and not from multiple intensive training sessions to develop strength and range of motion."

"Our study demonstrates a significant reduction in postacute care use associated with the use of physical therapy during the preoperative period for total joint replacement surgery," authors write, adding that in settings where replacement surgery has been recommended by an orthopedic surgeon, "physical therapy appears to provide value within the structure of a standardized preoperative joint replacement education and planning program in which physical therapists may play an important role."

While researchers acknowledge that more work needs to be done to pinpoint the best way to balance resource allocation between pre- and postoperative activities, they cite the current study's findings as a good first step in refining new models of care.

"As payments in health care move from a fee-for-service basis to more global payments that require some risk sharing by providers," authors write, "the ability to manage populations across the continuum to high-quality outcomes at low cost will be imperative."
Louisiana PT and PTA Programs Accept
2014 Challenge to Raise Funds for Research
By: Allison Czaplewski, SPT and Caroline Miller, SPT

A total of 109 schools participated in the 2013-2014 Miami-Marquette Challenge to raise $219,716 in support of the Foundation for Physical Therapy. The Foundation wishes to thank the students of Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center- Shreveport and Our Lady of the Lake College for their strong support of the Challenge. Since its inception in 1989, 192 different schools have participated in the Challenge, and PT and PTA students have raised a grand total of $2,757,216!

The annual Marquette Challenge is a grassroots fundraising effort coordinated and carried out by physical therapist and physical therapist assistant students across the country to support the Foundation for Physical Therapy’s mission of providing funding opportunities to outstanding physical therapist researchers. Ryan Mizner, PT, MPT, PhD, an assistant professor at the University of Montana, is the recipient of the 2013 Miami-Marquette Challenge Research Grant. His 2-year project, “A Novel Unweighting Technology to Address Psychological Impairments Limiting Outcomes after ACL Reconstruction,” will look at the effects of a bodyweight reduction instrument to deliver graded exercise (BRIDGE) on the outcomes of anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction. Mizner received both his master’s in physical therapy and PhD in biomechanics and movement science from the University of Delaware. The Challenge also funded a PODS I Scholarship in 2014, which went to Allyn Susko, PT, DPT of the University of Pittsburgh.

For the second year in a row, the first place winner of the Challenge was the University of Miami, whose students raised $31,625. We welcome the University of Miami as co-host again this year for the upcoming 2014-2015 Miami-Marquette Challenge. The University of Pittsburgh won second place, raising $21,119. Sacred Heart University students raised $16,860 and earned the third place title this year.

The Foundation for Physical Therapy was established in 1979 as a national, independent nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality and delivery of physical therapy care by providing support for scientifically-based and clinically-relevant physical therapy research and doctoral scholarships and fellowships.

Students of all PT and PTA programs in the State of Louisiana are encouraged to support the Foundation for Physical Therapy and physical therapy research. To learn how you can support the Challenge, please visit the Foundation’s Web site at www.Foundation4PT.org/get-involved/Challenge/, call the Foundation at 800/875-1378, or email Marquette student coordinators at Challenge4PT@gmail.com. Contributions for the 2014-2015 Miami-Marquette Challenge should be submitted by April 16, 2015.
LSUHSC-New Orleans: Therapeutic Exercise Dosing for Patients with Orthopaedic Dysfunction

Saturday, November 15th, 2014

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO THE DAVE PARISER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND @ LSUHSC- NEW ORLEANS CAMPUS.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course offers practitioners practical guidelines for the application of specific therapeutic exercises for patients with neuromusculoskeletal conditions. The philosophies of this course are based on a scientific understanding of connective tissues and exercise dosage. The course will include both lecture and lab demonstrations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Upon completion of this course participants will be able to:

- Define biomechanical nomenclature as it relates to exercise dosing
- Describe the composition, mechanism of injury, and optimal stimulus for regeneration for the various connective tissues.
- List, describe, discuss and perform the optimal dosed stimuli for rehabilitation of patients with primarily neuromusculoskeletal impairments.
- Prescribe a specific dose of exercise based on the status of the tissue involved and the goals of the treatment.
- Design specific exercise progressions by performing exercises/activities related to revascularization/regeneration, coordination, endurance, speed, strength, and function.

INSTRUCTOR:
Bob Rowe, PT, DPT, DMT, MHS, FAAOMPT
Brooks Rehabilitation
Director, Brooks Institute of Higher Learning
President, American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists

This course also includes a 1.5 hour networking luncheon!

CEUs:
This Brooks IHL has applied for 7 Contact Hours (0.7 CEUs) for PTs, PTAs, OTs and OTAs.

REGISTRATION FEE:
$250 for licensed clinicians
$100 for students

To register visit BrooksIHL.org
Student Speak

SSIG President and LSUHSC Shreveport PT student Mary Beth Foreman hosted a fundraiser at the Station Bar and Grill in Baton Rouge on September 19th, the first evening of the LPTA fall meeting. The money raised will go towards the costs of sending two SSIG officers to the upcoming National Student Conclave where they will run for positions in the National Student Assembly Executive Board. The fundraiser was a great success and the money raised will make the large, exciting voyage across the country to Milwaukee more affordable. We would like to thank Mary Beth as well as those that attended this event for lending their support.

The SSIG Meeting occurred on the morning of September 20th, prior to the Saturday session of the LPTA meeting. The guest speaker at the SSIG meeting was Dr. Troy Bourgeois, an orthopedic PT from the Movement Sciences Center. It quickly became apparent that Dr. Bourgeois was a very engaging speaker with the ability to capture all of our attention from the moment he spoke. His message began with his holding up a pamphlet – the APTA’s list of core values. This list, he told us, was the key to the advancement of PT as a whole and as students about to enter the physical therapy world. He continued his message with discussing the benefits of post graduate residencies, the important questions students should ask during future job searches, the benefits to staying current with evidence based PT research, and the importance of maintaining an APTA membership after graduation. At the end of our meeting we had time for questions and a small discussion. In response to a student’s question, Dr. Bourgeois explained the role that patients can play in the advancement of PT; if patients are made aware of the capabilities of physical therapy professionals, this will make a wider array of options available to them and allow them to make better decisions in their health care choices.

Afterwards, the meeting conducted a vote for the new SSIG Vice President. Congratulations to LSUHSC New Orleans PT student Kristin Dobies for winning the election, she is our new SSIG Vice President! According to the LA SSIG Bylaws, the Vice President assists the SSIG President in conducting SSIG meetings and events, assumes the duties of the SSIG President in her absence, and is responsible for the SSIG membership records.

Respectfully Submitted by: Bel Erten

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

School of Allied Health Professions,
Department of Physical Therapy
New Orleans, Louisiana

The Department of Physical Therapy invites applications for the position of Physical Therapy Clinic Supervisor. This is a 12 month, part-time position for a physical therapist to practice in and supervise the clinical practice of the LSUHSC Department of Physical Therapy. The position also includes the ability to teach and assist in the Doctor of Physical Therapy educational program as well as opportunities to participate in clinical research.

The Department of Physical Therapy has collaborative activities with other schools within the Health Sciences Center and with LSU Interim Hospital. The department has a spacious clinic, with state of the art classrooms and research equipment.

Requirements include at least 2 years of experience in Physical Therapy, license to practice physical therapy in Louisiana or be eligible for licensure. A DPT degree and experience in administration of physical therapy private practice is preferred. Clinicians with a Board Specialty or other advanced certifications will be highly desirable.

LSUHSC offers a very competitive salary. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, and curriculum vitae via email to:

T. Kirk Nelson, PT, PhD
Assistant Professor
Search Committee Chair
Department of Physical Therapy
1900 Gravier St., 7th Floor
New Orleans, LA 70112
Email: tnelso2@lsuhsc.edu
Ph: 504-568-2880

The LSUHSC/SAHP has a strong commitment to the principle of diversity and, in that spirit, seeks a broad spectrum of candidates. Applications will be reviewed beginning immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

LSUHSC is an EEO/AA Employer.
Bylaws Review: Where Does It Say That?

Thank you to all the LPTA members who attended the business meeting during the Saturday luncheon at the Fall Meeting in Baton Rouge. Your presence provided a much needed quorum to approve the Bylaw Revision.

There was one amendment approved to the proposed Revision amendments. There was other lively debate over certain areas of the proposed amendments. It was good to have the quorum to provide speakers for this debate.

In the end the major amendments provided for:
1. A quorum of 25 voting members for the business meeting.
2. Changed the term of office for the delegates to the House of Delegate and the PTA Representative to the PTA Caucus.
3. Changed the entire Article VIII. Committees to clarify the mandatory district membership representation to the Finance Committee, Governance Affairs Committee and the Nominating committee.
4. Placed the duties of the Ethics Committee in this section. The Ethical Standards of the APTA shall be the ethical standards of the Louisiana Chapter. Any PT or PTA member of the Chapter who is deemed to be in violation of these Ethical Standards should be reported to this Committee.
5. Elimination of absentee voting.
6. Gave the ability to the Board of Directors and Executive Committee to communicate by electronic means.

The approved Revision has been submitted to APTA for final review and approval. When I hear from the APTA the new Bylaws will be sent to our management office. At this time any member will be able to find the new Bylaws on our web-site and be able to print out your own copy. If you would like further information or clarification of this information you may contact me at 318-746-0627 or by e-mail at gmp5050@aol.com.

Respectfully Submitted by: Gail Pearce, Bylaws Chair

Treasurer’s Report

The 2015 budget was presented to the LPTA Board of Directors at the Fall Meeting on Friday, September 19, 2014. The recommendation of the Executive Committee to approve the budget presented by the Finance Committee was received by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors. The 2015 budget includes several initiatives. Our Government Affairs committee will have the ability to communicate key initiatives to our membership in a more nimble fashion. We will honor our commitment to the APTA Foundation in the second of 5 installments of a $25,000 donation.

Your treasurer is happy to answer any questions you might have regarding our 2015 budget. We continue as a financially strong Chapter of the APTA.

Respectfully Submitted by: Judith Halverson, LPTA Treasurer

PT-PAC!

Based on a recent survey put out by the APTA, 77% of our colleagues said they would be willing to contribute $20 ever year to help pass our legislative priorities in Congress!

Support the PT-PAC’s $20 campaign — your profession and patients are worth it!
Legislative Action!

2014 BESE RULE — HISTORY

In 2011, Rep. Roy authored a Comprehensive Sports Injury Management Program for Student Athletes Bill. The bill included language such as:

- “The coach is notified that the student has reported or exhibited any defined sign or symptom of a serious sport injury by any of the following persons: a licensed, registered, or certified medical practitioner operating within their respective scope or practice”….
- “…any other licensed, registered, or certified individual whose scope of practice includes the recognition of symptoms associated with serious sports injuries.”
- “may be allowed to return to practice, training, or competition only after the student provides to the coach and an athletic trainer written authorization from a health professional duly licensed in this state to provide health care services or medical treatment.”

The bill basically outlined injury management and stated that **BESE (Board of Elem and Secondary Education)** shall promulgate rules necessary to implement a Sports Injury Management Program.

In April 2014, BESE promulgated rules to satisfy the 2011 bill requirement. The Rules state:

- “if a MD/DO is not immediately available, the injured student-athlete may be triaged by an appropriate mid level provider duly authorized by a MD/DO.
- “If the student-athlete’s injury is not a serious sports injury, then a Return to play (RTP) clearance may be provided by an onsite MD/DO or an appropriate mid-level provider duly authorized by a MD/DO.
- The rules further define a mid level practitioner. §701. Definitions

  **Appropriate Mid-Level Provider:** a health care provider duly authorized by a supervising MD/DO to provide care for sports injuries in accordance with their respective scopes of practice. For the purpose of this injury management program, the following health care providers may function as an appropriate mid-level provider onsite at any school-sponsored or sanctioned athletic activity:

  - **physician assistant (PA) licensed to practice in Louisiana;**
  - **a registered nurse practitioner licensed to practice in Louisiana;**
  - **an athletic trainer (AT) certified by LSBME to practice in Louisiana.**

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Dave Pariser Memorial Scholarship Fund

To make an online contribution to the Scholarship fund, go to the Foundation website and at the top right hand side of the page, there is purple box with the words “Donate Now”. Choose the amount of the donation and choose the designated fund, the Dave Pariser Memorial Scholarship Fund.

[http://www.lsuhealthfoundation.org/?dt=1360008523433](http://www.lsuhealthfoundation.org/?dt=1360008523433)

Or you can mail to the Dave Pariser Memorial Scholarship Fund:

The Foundation for the LSU Health Sciences Center
450A South Claiborne Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70112
CURRENTLY

In response to this rule and to clarify how this rule impacts Physical Therapist in LA, the LA PT Board has issued the following statement:

**LOUISIANA PHYSICAL THERAPY BOARD: SIDELINE INJURY MANAGEMENT STATEMENT**

- “Providing wellness and injury management on the sidelines of school sponsored athletic activities is a vital service provided by a variety of health care professionals. Under Louisiana R.S. 40:1299.186, Physical Therapists are health care professionals specifically named and authorized to be present on the sidelines of school sponsored athletic events, examine athletes, determine when an athlete must be removed from play, and provide the necessary return-to-play authorizations. Physical therapists working in this capacity in accordance with the Physical Therapy Practice Act and the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board Rules provide essential sideline care and ensure the safety of all participants.”

PLAN

The LPTA is working in collaboration with the LA PT Board to pursue a change in the rule. As of this writing, initial conversations with BESE have been positive and BESE is receptive to re-promulgating the rules to include physical therapists. If you have any further questions or encounter any issues with this rule, email the LA PT Board at participate@laptboard.org or the LPTA at office@lpta.org.