



Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,
and Athletic Trainers Board

Physical Therapy Section
January 19, 2012
10:00 a.m.

Members Present

Raymond Bilecky
Lynn Busdeker
Thomas Caldwell, Chair
Sam Coppoletti, Secretary
Mary Kay Eastman
Karen Holtgrefe
James Lee

Adam Miller, OPTA
Bill Behrendt, JCARR
Nick Bobinger
Malissa Corbett
Jaime Diadiun
Daniel Hass
David Lewin
Matt Linsenmayer
Stephanie McIntosh
Christina Metzger
Tiffany Miracle
Charlene Mitchell
Chelsey Orr
Ricky Pickett
Andrew Ross
Heather Sigmund
Rachel Smith
Christina Swierz
Lindsay Weaks
Sam Winiesdorffer

Legal Counsel

Yvonne Tertel, Assistant Attorney General

Staff Present

H. Jeffery Barker, Investigator
Diane Moore, Executive Assistant
Jeffrey Rosa, Executive Director
Lisa Ratinaud, Enforcement Division Supervisor

Guests

Shane Yates, OPTA
Carolyn Towner, OPTA

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Thomas Caldwell, at 10:06 a.m.

The Section welcomed the physical therapy students from Ohio University.

The Section Chair noted that due to quorum issues, some enforcement actions will not be voted on today.

Approval of Minutes

Action: Karen Holtgrefe moved that the minutes from the November 10, 2011, meeting be approved as submitted. Mary Kay Eastman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Executive Director's Report

- The Executive Director informed the Section that the Governor's Office had not appointed two new members to fill the vacant positions on the Physical Therapy Section.
- The Executive Director informed the Section that the physical therapist renewals will come to a close on Jan 31st. There are approximately 1000 licensees that have not yet renewed.
- The Executive Director informed the Section that the new investigator assistant position description was approved and the position will be posted shortly

The formal Executive Director's report is attached to the minutes for reference.

Administrative Reports

Licensure Applications

Action: James Lee moved that the Physical Therapy Section ratify, as submitted, the individuals approved by the Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board to sit for the National Physical Therapy Examination for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants from November 10, 2011 through, January 19, 2012, taking into account those individuals subject to discipline, surrender, or non-renewal. Mr. Lee further moved

that the following persons be licensed as physical therapists/physical therapist assistants pending passage of the National Physical Therapy Examination and Ohio laws and rules examination. Mary Kay Eastman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Physical Therapist – Examination

Abernathy, Amanda	Anderson, Rachel	Barnes, Channon
Batz, Stephanie	Campolieti, John	Caruso, Shannon
Catanese, Carly	Cecez, Miljan	Chmura, Victoria
Creighton, Laura	Demas, Erin	Dickerson, Sherrice
Donahue, Lauren	Fonovic, Janet	Ford, Amanda
Giddens, Amanda	Gracik, Amy	Griffin, Brandon
Johnson, Terrence	Jones, Brittany	Korenko, Alyssa
Kramer, Erin	Kudla, Addam	Lemmo, Justin
Luchetti, Dale	Menon, Megha	Meyer, Leslie
Mitchell, Melanie	Ng, Jennifer	Pilekic, Ante
Poirier, Elizabeth	Romanofsky, Laura	Ruthemeyer, Christopher
Sacha, Jeremy	Schindler, Therese	Sellers, Lindsay
Shakarashvili, Nodar	Shinkle, Erin	Smetana, Katherine
Testerman, Adam	Tisi, Kristina	Tomlan, Kristina
Tripodis, Stamatios	Venezia, Rachel	Von Benken, Brian
Warmuth, Darcie	Welly, Erin	Westerheide, Katherine
Zwack, Jessica		

Physical Therapist Assistant – Examination

Anderson, Christopher	Angus, Justina	Bohnsack, Nicole
Breth, Ryan	Brindza, James	Carmel, Brett
Chamblin, Melissa	Cottrell, Darla	Debruine, Kendra
Endebrook, Sean	Florence, Deandre	Fox, Mark
Fulton, Brian	Gentry, Raleigh	Graczyk, Jennifer
Grasso, Chrystal	Hale, Amber	Harmon, Kelci
Harris, Terry	Herrman, Heather	Hines, David
Hinton, David	Johns, Miranda	Keeley, Laura
Kerner, Scott	Kitchen, Vera	Logarusic, Karmen
Mocarski, Michael	Mocarski, Steven	Moore, Christopher
Neumann, Amanda	O'Neill, Megan	Patchin, Tabetha
Paul, Christopher	Robinson, Jeffrey	Schmid, Lindsay
Shellhaas, Sue	St. Clair, Danielle	Stafinski, Jamie
Stulgis, Angela	Surgeon, Ronald	Taylor, Shonna
Taylor, Shonna	Teal, Renee	Turner, Kevin
Valdez, Joshua	Waddle, Stacy	Waddle, Stacy
Wheatley, Karen	White, Amanda	Wilson, Rebecca
Workman, Patricia	Young, Michael	Zdunczyk, Amber
Zito, Phillip	Zuccaro, Melissa	

Action: James Lee moved that the Physical Therapy Section ratify, as submitted, the physical therapist and physical therapist assistant licenses issued by endorsement and reinstatement by the Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board from November 10, 2011 through January 19, 2012, taking into account those licenses subject to discipline, surrender, or non-renewal. Lynn Busdeker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Physical Therapist – Endorsement

Brueshaber, Jennifer	Buchholz, Eric	Buchholz, Lila
Cook, Phillip	Douglas, James	Gustwiller, Stephanie
Knight, Brian	Martell, Judith	Meyrose, Colleen
Nieman, Rachel	Patel, Jayeshkumar	Patel, Shefali
Penn, Mindy	Popiolkowski, Matthew	Reed, Christopher
Rush, Andrea	Saller, Nicholas	Sherpa, Alla

Torry, Michelle

Tsai, Chia-Ling

Physical Therapist Assistant – Endorsement

Cathcart, Bobbi Jo
Fickiesen, Zachary
Parker, Jennifer
Shaw, Mary

Craver, Heather
Norris, Karen
Reynolds, Heather
Wassung, Bruce

Davis, Andrew
O'Keefe, Kathleen
Sarvis, Valerie

Physical Therapist Reinstatement

Conaway, Michael
Sutton, Shawn

Opfer, Mark
Wittine, Annette

Quinn, Angela

Physical Therapist Assistant Reinstatement

Meek, Angela

Rios, Melissa

Vazquez, Luis

Licensure Requirements Waiver Requests

Raymond Bilecky recommended that the Section accept the additional work experience history and grant a waiver of retaking the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) for physical therapist endorsement application file #5124665 based on the documentation provided. **Action:** James Lee moved that the Section accept the additional work experience history and grant a waiver of retaking the National Physical Therapy Examination for physical therapist endorsement application file #5124665 based on the documentation provided. Karen Holtgreffe seconded the motion. Raymond Bilecky abstained from voting. The motion carried. The Section granted a waiver of the NPTE retake requirement for Wendy McLean.

Request for Waiver of English Equivalency Examinations for Licensure

James Lee recommended that the Section grant a waiver of the TOEFL requirement for the physical therapist endorsement file #4805042 based on the documentation provided. **Action:** Raymond Bilecky moved to grant a waiver of the TOEFL requirement for the physical therapist endorsement file #4805042 based on the documentation provided. Lynn Busdeker seconded the motion. James Lee abstained from voting. The motion carried. The Section granted a waiver of the TOEFL requirement for Rani Mathew.

James Lee recommended that the Section grant a waiver of the TOEFL requirement for the physical therapist endorsement file #5127321 based on the documentation provided. **Action:** Karen Holtgreffe moved to grant a waiver of the TOEFL requirement for the physical therapist endorsement file #5127321 based on the documentation provided. Sam Coppoletti seconded the motion. James Lee abstained from voting. The motion carried. The Section granted a waiver of the TOEFL requirement for Ibrahim Altubasi.

Continuing Education Approval Request

James Lee recommended that the Section grant approval to use a course taken in January 2012 towards the continuing education requirement for the 2014 renewal for physical therapist file #4292460 based on the documentation presented and provided that the course has a valid Ohio Approval Number. **Action:** Mary Kay Eastman moved that the Section grant approval to use a course taken in January 2012 towards the continuing education requirement for the 2014 renewal for physical therapist file #4292460 based on the documentation presented and provided that the course has a valid Ohio Approval Number. Karen Holtgreffe seconded the motion. James Lee abstained from voting. The motion carried. The Section granted approval to use a course taken in January 2012 towards the continuing education requirement for the 2014 renewal for Danielle Lawrence, PT.

The Section received a continuing education waiver request for physical therapist file #4197322 due to undue hardship. James Lee recommended that the Section waive 4 hours of continuing education for the 2012 licensure renewal for physical therapist file #4197322 based on the documentation provided. **Action:** Karen Holtgreffe moved that the Section grant a waiver of 4 hours of continuing education for the 2012 licensure renewal for physical therapist file #4197322 based on the documentation provided. Lynn Busdeker seconded the motion. James Lee abstained from voting. The motion carried. The Section granted a continuing education waiver for Philip Hoehn, PT.

The Section received a continuing education extension request for physical therapist file #4199940 due to medical reasons. James Lee recommended that the Section grant a one year extension for physical therapist file #4199940 to

complete the 24 hours of continuing education required for the 2012 licensure renewal based on the documentation provided. **Action:** Raymond Bilecky moved that the Section grant one year extension for physical therapist file #4199940 to complete the 24 hours of continuing education required for the 2012 licensure renewal based on the documentation provided. Karen Holtgreffe seconded the motion. James Lee abstained from voting. The motion carried. The Section granted an extension for Taunna Fletcher, PT. The deadline to submit the proof of completion of continuing education requirements is February 1, 2013.

The Section received a continuing education waiver request for physical therapist file #4200592 due to undue hardship. James Lee recommended that the Section grant a 90 day extension for physical therapist file #4200592 to complete 6 hours of continuing education required for the 2012 licensure renewal based on the documentation provided. **Action:** Lynn Busdeker moved that the Section grant a 90 day extension for physical therapist file #4200592 to complete 6 hours of continuing education required for the 2012 licensure renewal based on the documentation provided. Karen Holtgreffe seconded the motion. James Lee abstained from voting. The motion carried. The Section granted an extension for Thomas Birk, PT. The deadline to submit the proof of completion of continuing education requirements is May 1, 2012.

Assistant Attorney General's Report

Yvonne Tertel, AAG, had no formal report for the Section.

Case Review Liaison Report

Raymond Bilecky reported that the Enforcement Division closed seven and opened five new cases since the November 10, 2011 meeting. There are sixteen cases currently open. There are five disciplinary consent agreements, two adjudication orders, and one non-disciplinary agreement being monitored.

Raymond Bilecky informed the Section that Holly Gundrum and Vance Baker complied with all terms and conditions and were released from their disciplinary consent agreements.

Enforcement Actions

Raymond Bilecky recommended that a notice of opportunity for a hearing be issued for case PT LD-12-002 for falsification of a physical therapist assistant endorsement application and felony convictions. **Action:** Mary Kay Eastman moved that a notice of opportunity for a hearing be issued for case PT LD 12-002 for falsification of a physical therapist assistant endorsement application and felony convictions. Lynn Busdeker seconded the motion. Thomas Caldwell and Raymond Bilecky abstained from voting. The motion carried.

Correspondence

1. **Jennifer Wissinger, PT, DPT:** Dr. Wissinger asked the Section questions regarding student physical therapist (SPT) documentation in electrical systems for billing to the Ohio Medicaid School Program. **Reply:** Since the electronic documentation system is primarily for Medicaid billing, but is used for documentation on all students (regardless of insurance), we suggest you contact Mark Smith, OMSP Program Coordinator at the Ohio Department of Education at (614) 752-1493 or via email at mark.smith@ode.state.oh.us about your situation. Your suggestion of entering a separate note within the same documentation system, referencing that a student PT completed the note, the date of the note(s) being reviewed with documentation referencing the review, noting agreement, and/or changes needed with signature allows the student PT to participate in documentation within the constraints of your present system. The concern as you noted would be ensuring that no students under Medicaid are treated by a PT student and billed for the service. Your second question relates to payer policies and not to the Ohio Physical Therapy Practice Act. The Physical Therapy Section recommends that you contact the appropriate insurance company or the Ohio Chapter or Reimbursement Department of the American Physical Therapy Association. You may also contact, Mark Smith, OMSP Program Coordinator at the Ohio Department of Education at (614) 752-1493 or via email at mark.smith@ode.state.oh.us.
2. **Rania Karim:** Ms. Karim asked the Section questions regarding whether physical therapists can accept an order written by a registered nurse and signed by a physician. **Reply:** Pursuant to division (G) of section 4755.48 of the Revised Code, physical therapists may provide services to a patient upon a referral from a person who is licensed or registered in this state or any other state to practice medicine and surgery, chiropractic, dentistry, osteopathic medicine and surgery, podiatric medicine and surgery, or to practice

nursing as a certified registered nurse anesthetist, a clinical nurse specialist, a certified nurse-midwife, or a certified nurse practitioner within the scope of such practices, and whose license is in good standing. Therefore the physical therapist can accept a referral written by a nurse since it is signed by a physician.

3. **Nicki Fletcher:** Ms. Fletcher asked the Section whether physical therapist assistant can write “goal met” if the patient has reached a goal during the treatment session conducted by the assistant. **Reply:** It is the position of the Physical Therapy Section that physical therapist assistants may gather and summarize objective information; however, they may not interpret this data. This is the solely the responsibility of the physical therapist.
4. **Tricia Yahl:** Ms. Yahl asked the Section whether physical therapists are required to include the license number when signing documentation. **Reply:** There is nothing in the Ohio Physical Therapy Practice Act that requires you to include your licensure number as part of your signature. The Physical Therapy Section recommends that you consult with your facility and third party payers to determine if they require this. Your official license number, as identified above, does officially include the leading zeros.
5. **Georgia Shilander:** Ms. Shilander asked the Section questions regarding billing Medicaid for IEP-based physical therapy services in school-based practice. **Reply:** Regarding the questions asked in your December 8, 2011, email, the Ohio Medicaid Schools Program (OMSP) reimburses school districts only for services that are medically necessary. This does not prohibit provision of educationally necessary services, but limits billing Medicaid only for those services that are also medically necessary. Therefore, therapists must be cautious about what services they document for Medicaid billing. If in your professional judgment, the services you are providing a student are educationally necessary, but not medically necessary, you are not required to bill for these services and doing so may be considered Medicaid fraud. The Section recommends that you contact Mark Smith, OMSP Program Coordinator at the Ohio Department of Education at (614) 752-1493 or via email at mark.smith@ode.state.oh.us, to verify who is responsible for the billing and how it should be done. In addition, you might also contact Cathy Csanyi, OT/PT Specialty Consultant with the Ohio Department of Education, Office for Exceptional Children at (419) 747-2806 or via email at cathy.csanyi@ode.state.oh.us to determine if all your goals and services should be both educationally and medically necessary. Regarding your questions from the December 13, 2011, email, the code of ethical conduct for physical therapists, established in rule 4755-27-05 of the Administrative Code states, “an individual licensed by the physical therapy section has a responsibility to report any organization or entity that provides or holds itself out to deliver physical therapy services that places the licensee in a position of compromise with this code of ethical conduct.” Several other provisions in paragraph (A) of this rule apply in your situation: (2) A licensee shall exercise sound judgment and act in a trustworthy manner in all aspects of physical therapy practice. Regardless of practice setting, the physical therapist shall maintain the ability to make independent judgments. A licensee shall strive to effect changes that benefit the patient. (3) A licensee shall only seek compensation that is reasonable for the physical therapy services delivered. A licensee shall never place the licensee’s own financial interests above the welfare of the licensee’s patients. *A licensee, regardless of practice setting, shall safeguard the public from unethical and unlawful business practices.* (8) A licensee shall safeguard the public from underutilization and overutilization of physical therapy services.
6. **Rushina Patel, PT, DPT:** Dr. Patel asked the Section whether physical therapist assistants can perform manual muscle tests and complete tests like the Tinetti and Berg Balance tests. **Reply:** It is the position of the Physical Therapy Section that physical therapist assistants may gather and summarize objective information including manual muscle testing, Berg Balance tests, and Tinetti; however, they may not interpret this data. It is the responsibility of the physical therapist to interpret and make recommendations for the purpose of goal achievement and discharge development.
7. **Sarah King:** Ms. King asked the Section whether physical therapy practitioners can provide physical therapy treatment to their son. **Reply:** There is nothing in the Ohio Physical Therapy Practice Act that prohibits treating a family member. However, there may be agency or insurance payer policies regarding treatment and billing for services for a family member that you should clarify prior to providing these services.
8. **William Benoit:** Mr. Benoit asked the Section whether physical therapist assistant can write “goal met” if the patient has reached a goal during the treatment session conducted by the assistant. **Reply:** It is the position of the Physical Therapy Section that physical therapist assistants may gather and summarize

objective information; however, they may not interpret this data. This is the solely the responsibility of the physical therapist.

9. **Jose Santos:** Mr. Santos asked the Section whether physical therapist assistants can perform manual therapy. **Reply:** Ohio law does not specifically refer to whether or not a physical therapist assistant may utilize manual therapy techniques. Rule 4755-27-02 (E) of the Administrative Code allows the physical therapist to delegate treatment procedures or services beyond the entry level scope of physical therapist assistant practice, provided that the physical therapist assistant has documented training and demonstrated competency in delivery of the procedure. The supervising physical therapist must also be able to demonstrate competency in any procedure or services that has been delegated to the physical therapist assistant. The supervising physical therapist may not delegate treatments, procedures, or services to a physical therapist assistant if the supervising physical therapist cannot demonstrate knowledge and competency in the procedure, even if the physical therapist assistant can demonstrate knowledge and competency in the procedure. It is the position of the Physical Therapy Section that there may be some cases (e.g. capsular tightness in a shoulder, scar tissue around a patella, oscillatory technique for pain reduction) in which a physical therapist could safely delegate several treatments of low-grade mobilization to a physical therapist assistant. Since the need for re-examination prior to treatment needs to be a clinical judgment of the physical therapist on a case-by-case basis and since re-examination cannot be delegated, it is the responsibility of the physical therapist to determine if treatments can be delegated within the parameters of the Ohio Physical Therapy Practice Act. The Physical Therapy Section would expect a physical therapist delegating any intervention to a physical therapist assistant or other licensed personnel to be able to provide the rationale for such delegation. While the Physical Therapy Section understands the position of the American Physical Therapy Association related to providers of manual therapy, that position has not been codified into the scope of practice in the Ohio Physical Therapy Practice Act.
10. **Rebecca Riblet, PT, DPT:** Dr. Riblet asked the Section if it is appropriate to continue physical therapy interventions for a client, if the client has reached a plateau. **Reply:** The code of ethical conduct for physical therapists, established in rule 4755-27-05 of the Administrative Code states, “an individual licensed by the Physical Therapy Section has a responsibility to report any organization or entity that provides or holds itself out to deliver physical therapy services that places the licensee in a position of compromise with this code of ethical conduct.” Several other provisions in paragraph (A) of this rule apply in your situation: (2) A licensee shall exercise sound judgment and act in a trustworthy manner in all aspects of physical therapy practice. Regardless of practice setting, the physical therapist shall maintain the ability to make independent judgments. A licensee shall strive to effect changes that benefit the patient. (3) A licensee shall only seek compensation that is reasonable for the physical therapy services delivered. A licensee shall never place the licensee’s own financial interests above the welfare of the licensee’s patients. *A licensee, regardless of practice setting, shall safeguard the public from unethical and unlawful business practices.* (8) A licensee shall safeguard the public from underutilization and *overutilization* of physical therapy services. On another topic, the Physical Therapy Section is working to educate physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in the correct credentials to use in professional signatures. Since PT or PTA is the regulatory designation allowing practice, rule 4755-27-07 of the Administrative Code requires that only those letters should immediately follow the person’s name. Academic degrees may then follow the regulatory credential. For example, a nametag or signature might read Pat Doe, PT, DPT, OCS.
11. **Carrie Knox:** Ms. Knox asked the Section whether physical therapist assistants can switch the tubing from an oxygen wall tank to a portable tank and turn it on to the prescribed amount. **Reply:** There is nothing in the Ohio Physical Therapy Practice Act that prohibits physical therapy practitioners from administering oxygen. If there is a physician order for oxygen, then the physical therapy practitioner may administer the oxygen by changing from a wall unit to a portable tank, maintaining the oxygen level indicated on the order. A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant cannot change the liters of oxygen to be administered unless there is a specific order that allows adjustment of the oxygen level in order to keep the patient at specific oxygen saturation.
12. **Kyle Danemayer:** Mr. Danemayer asked the Section if it is legal to charge cash for a procedure that has a billable code (97140 *Manual Therapy*) and does the practice setting matter (*physician owned/private practice/independent contractor*). **Reply:** There is nothing in the Ohio Physical Therapy Practice Act that requires you to bill for physical therapy services or accept cash. The Code of Ethical Conduct for physical therapy practitioners, as established in rule 4755-27-05 (A)(3) of the Ohio Administrative Code, states that

a licensee shall only seek compensation that is reasonable for the physical therapy services delivered. A licensee shall never place the licensee's own financial interests above the welfare of the licensee's patients. A licensee, regardless of the practice setting, shall safeguard the public from unethical and unlawful business practices.

13. **Jessica Iams, PT, DPT:** Dr. Iams asked the Section whether physical therapists can instruct a client on the use of a TENS Unit and sell the unit to the client without a physician's referral. **Reply:** There is nothing in the Ohio Physical Therapy Practice Act that requires you to bill for physical therapy services or accept cash. The Code of Ethical Conduct for physical therapy practitioners, as established in rule 4755-27-05 (A)(3) of the Ohio Administrative Code, states that a licensee shall only seek compensation that is reasonable for the physical therapy services delivered. A licensee shall never place the licensee's own financial interests above the welfare of the licensee's patients. A licensee, regardless of the practice setting, shall safeguard the public from unethical and unlawful business practices, and finally, a licensee shall not influence a patient or the patient's family to utilize, purchase, or rent any equipment based on the direct or indirect financial interests of the licensee. Recommendations of equipment must be based solely on the therapeutic value of that equipment to the patient. A licensee who owns or has a direct financial interest in an equipment or supply company must disclose the financial interest to the patient if the licensee sells or rents, or intends to sell or rent, to the patient.

OT/PT Joint Correspondence

- JB1. **Debbie Ellis, OTR/L:** Ms. Ellis asked the Occupational and Physical Therapy Sections whether it is necessary for occupational and physical therapists to transfer patient care if the therapist is out on maternity leave. **Reply:** Yes, the maternity situation requires a transfer of care as you described in your letter.

- JB2. **Rushina Patel, PT, DPT:** Dr. Patel asked the Occupational and Physical Therapy Sections questions regarding appropriate credentials to use in documentation and assisting with non-therapy services in a SNF setting. **Reply:** In response to your first question, it is the opinion of the Occupational Therapy Section that collaborative teamwork, including multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary, and transdisciplinary approaches are appropriate forms of service delivery. A client transferring from one position to another is not exclusive to occupational therapy. If the client is not on the current occupational therapy case load, the occupational therapy practitioner must use professional judgment to determine when training is not adequate to provide requested assistance. As in any work setting, an occupational therapist working in a skilled nursing facility would be required to assume the professional responsibilities outlined in rule 4755-7-02 (A) of the Ohio Administrative Code. For example, as a part of the transdisciplinary team, the occupational therapist performs evaluations and analysis of the client and environment; identifies issues and inputs into the development of goals and objectives; plans appropriate interventions; and assesses outcomes. While there are times as a team member you may choose to assist another team member (aide or nurse) with a difficult transfer, what you describe is not a physical therapy task and may not be represented as physical therapy. It is important that you discuss with your administration the Ohio Physical Therapy Practice Act. In addition, if your facility does not use Safe Patient Handling equipment, you may want to take the lead in moving your facility in this direction. In response to your second question, it is the position of the Occupational Therapy Section that licensure designation be documented at a minimum by the appropriate regulatory credential. The therapist's signature sequence should be the therapist's name, followed by the regulatory professional credential that allows the therapist to practice occupational therapy. For example: Jane Doe, OT/L. The Ohio Occupational Therapy Practice Act is silent on the education credential and the order in which it is placed. In addition, there is nothing in the Occupational Therapy Practice Act that requires a licensee to include the licensee's license number as part of the signature. In accordance with rule 4755-7-10 of the Administrative Code, occupational therapy practitioners who do not maintain NBCOT certification should use the following credentials: OT/L for occupational therapists and OTA/L for occupational therapy assistants. Regarding your second question, the Physical Therapy Section is working to educate physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in the correct credentials to use in professional signatures. Since PT or PTA is the regulatory designation allowing practice, rule 4755-27-07 of the Administrative Code requires that only those letters should immediately follow the person's name. Academic degrees may then follow the regulatory credential. For example, a nametag or signature might read Pat Doe, PT, MS, OCS. "L" should not be used in front of "PT" or "PTA" since no one may use the "PT" or "PTA" credential in Ohio without a valid license. However, the Sections recommend that you review your facility policies and

procedures. In addition, payers may have requirements that are more restrictive than the Ohio Occupational and Physical Therapy Practice Acts.

- JB3. Kathy Armentrout, PT:** Ms. Armentrout asked the Occupational and Physical Therapy Sections if physical therapists can treat clients based on the occupational therapy plan of care. **Reply:** The physical therapist and physical therapist assistant may only treat pursuant to the physical therapy evaluation and plan of care and the occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistant may only treat pursuant to the occupational therapy evaluation and plan of care. Occupational therapy and physical therapy practitioners may not treat pursuant to an evaluation and plan of care established by the other discipline. In response to your question, physical therapists cannot work under the plan of care of an occupational therapist. If another occupational therapy practitioner who demonstrates and documents competency in the treatment of lymphedema cannot be identified to assume the care of the client, the occupational therapist would have to discharge the client and the client would need to be evaluated by the physical therapist, who must establish a separate physical therapy plan of care.
- JB4. Kari Perin, PT, DPT:** Dr. Perin asked the Athletic Trainers and Physical Therapy Sections if an athletic trainer can provide treatment to a client under the physical therapy plan of care, if the client cannot be seen by a physical therapy practitioner and how to bill for the services rendered by the athletic trainer. **Reply:** Rule 4755-27-01 (C) of the Ohio Administrative Code defines “other licensed personnel” as “any person holding an Ohio license to practice as a health care practitioner in a profession other than physical therapy . . . who is working under the direct supervision of a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant, as delegated by the physical therapist, and is performing tasks and duties related to the delivery of physical therapy.” When acting under the direction of a physical therapist, licensed athletic trainers are considered other licensed personnel. In accordance with rule 4755-27-04 of the Administrative Code, the supervising physical therapist or physical therapist assistant is accountable and responsible at all times for the direction of the actions of the persons supervised, including other licensed personnel. If the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant is unavailable to appropriately supervise the athletic trainer, then the athletic trainer cannot provide the treatment. Other licensed personnel cannot be assigned their own physical therapy caseload without the supervising physical therapist or physical therapist assistant having direct contact with each patient during each visit. It is the responsibility of the physical therapist to determine and document the extent of contact necessary to assure safe patient care. Pursuant to rule 4755-27-03 (F) of the Ohio Administrative Code, “Delegation of tasks related to the operation and delivery of physical therapy to other licensed personnel must be done in accordance with the scope of practice of the other licensed personnel’s professional license, education and training, the level of competence as determined by the supervising physical therapist, and in consideration of the patient’s overall needs and medical status.” In accordance with rule 4755-27-03 (D) of the Ohio Administrative Code, a physical therapist may choose to refer a patient to another discipline, including physicians, for services. This referral shall be documented by the physical therapist in the medical record to clearly demonstrate a referral for that service. Such referral will not be a delegation of tasks or duties of physical therapy.
- JB5. Debra Farley:** Ms. Farley asked the Occupational and Physical Therapy Sections questions regarding coding for occupational and physical therapy services to special needs children in an independent practice setting. **Reply:** It is the position of the Physical Therapy Section that any service should be billed under the most descriptive intervention and diagnostic codes available. Please check with Medicare, third-party payers and, and insurance policies to address your specific questions. You may also get information from the Reimbursement Department or Ohio chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association. Your questions relate to payer policies and not to the Ohio Occupational Practice Act. The Section recommends that you refer to Medicare, Medicaid, and/or payer policies for any specific billing and reimbursement requirements in your setting. You might also contact the Ohio Occupational Therapy Association, or the Reimbursement Department of the American Occupational Therapy Association.
- JB6. Andrew Brown, PT, DPT:** Dr. Brown asked the Athletic Trainers and Physical Therapy Sections for clarification on billing codes for time sent on filming and educating the client. **Reply:** Nothing in the Ohio Athletic Training Practice Act prevents athletic trainers from billing for services. However, employers may restrict your practice due to billing or other protocol issues. The Athletic Trainers Section suggests you contact the Ohio Athletic Trainers Association or the National Athletic Trainers Association or refer to CPT codes listed under physical medicine. Your questions relate to payer policies and not to the Ohio Physical Therapy Practice Act. The Physical Therapy Section recommends that you contact the appropriate

insurance company or the Ohio Chapter or Reimbursement Department of the American Physical Therapy Association.

Old Business

Update on Dry Needling (Intramuscular Manual Therapy)

The Executive Director provided a handout from FSBPT which gives examples of how an individual can demonstrate competence in advanced practice skills. Lynn Busdeker will forward Karen Holtgreffe the name of a physical therapist that is currently using dry needling in his/her physical therapy practice.

Update on Concussion Management

The Section discussed outlining goals for the committee with the ultimate goal of providing examples of competencies for concussion management.

Continuing Competence Taskforce Update

The Continuing Competence Taskforce did not meet in January 2012. The taskforce is planning to meet in February 2012.

New Business

Public Rules Hearing

The Section held a public rules hearing from 11:00 am to 11:06 am.

Potential FAQ Regarding Billing for School-Based PT Services

The Section will post a new FAQ to the website that addresses billing for school-based physical therapy services.

New Liaison Position

The Section discussed assigning a Board member to serve as a Rules Liaison to work with the Executive Director on any interactions with stakeholders regarding input on potential rules changes. The Section agreed that the Section Chair should be the Rules Liaison. Therefore, Thomas Caldwell will serve as the Rules Liaison for the Physical Therapy Section.

Open Forum

The Section opened the floor for Ohio University physical therapy students to ask questions.

Jeffrey Rosa will give the Section update at the OPTA Annual Conference.

Currently, there are two vacant Board member positions on the Physical Therapy Section.

Ohio Physical Therapy Association (OPTA) Report

Shane Yates informed the Section that:

- The OPTA Annual Conference will take place on March 29-31, 2012 at the Doubletree in Worthington.
- OPTA Membership Committee is having a YouTube Challenge for physical therapists to submit a video demonstrating how they have benefited from being a member of the association. Deadline to submit a video is February 24, 2012. There will be prizes for the best videos.
- Mr. Yates further reported that for Fiscal Year 2011, OPTA reviewed 377 individual continuing education applications (approved 364 and denied 9). OPTA reviewed 1674 sponsor applications (approved 1661 and denied 13).
- Continuing Competence Taskforce will meet in February 2012.
- Carolyn Towner gave a legislative report.

Federation of State Boards for Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Report

- Raymond Bilecky was appointed to serve on a FCCPT Committee from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2015.
- The National Physical Therapy Examination for physical therapist assistants will begin fixed date testing on March 1, 2012. The OTPTAT Board will update the Board's website with the new PTA fixed date testing application process and deadlines. Also, starting in 2013, the new exam blueprint will be used.
- New information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act was released on January 18, 2012, which

may change the standards on testing accommodations.

Items for Next Meeting

- Retreat Planning
- Update on Dry Needling
- Update on Concussion Management
- Update on Continuing Competence Task Force

Next Meeting Date

The next regular meeting date of the Physical Therapy Section is scheduled for Thursday, March 8, 2012.

Adjournment

Mary Kay Eastman moved that the meeting be adjourned. Karen Holtgreffe seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Moore

Thomas Caldwell, PT, Chair
Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,
and Athletic Trainers Board, PT Section

Sam Coppoletti, PT, Secretary
Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,
and Athletic Trainers Board, PT Section

Jeffrey M. Rosa, Executive Director
Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy
and Athletic Trainers Board

SC:jmr:dm