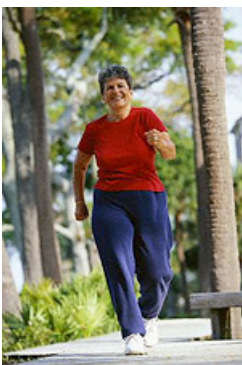




Benefits of Section on Geriatrics Membership:

- ✦ Our educational programming at CSM, regional courses, home study modules, and online courses
- ✦ *Journal of Geriatric Physical Therapy*, our peer reviewed journal
- ✦ *GeriNotes*, our Section magazine
- ✦ Awards, including student research awards
- ✦ Geriatric specialization support
- ✦ Free consumer education materials
- ✦ Special Interest Groups – Balance and Falls, Health and Wellness, Osteoporosis
- ✦ Ability to get actively involved in an elected position or on a committee.
- ✦ And more! See Section on Geriatrics home page www.geriaticsppt.org



Why Practice Physical Therapy in Geriatrics?

Choosing Geriatrics

Geriatrics, or health care concerned with aging adults, is a rapidly growing specialty in physical therapy.

Geriatric physical therapy is dynamic. The patients we treat can be found in many different environments. Our patients include healthy elders who are working to continue pursuing sports and other physical activities as they age, chronically ill persons in adult foster programs and assisted living, critically ill or injured older individuals requiring acute care, and

frail elderly who may be frequently hospitalized or require skilled nursing services. The range of environments and potential treatment options is vast. During their careers, most PTs will work with aging adults: geriatrics is a very useful background for you to have!

The field of geriatrics is growing exponentially to meet the demographic changes of an aging society. Working with aging adults as a physical therapist can be incredibly rewarding. The Section on Geriatrics encourages you

to choose aging and geriatrics related courses: choose geriatric courses, select a clinical affiliation in geriatrics, or consider a residency in geriatrics!

Any APTA Member can be assigned a mentor in the field of geriatrics. Simply visit www.apta.org, click “Membership & Leadership,” and look for the Mentoring link.

If you don't find someone near you, contact the Section on Geriatrics and we will help find someone.

The Section on Geriatrics

A great first step to learning more about geriatrics and aging is to join APTA's Section on Geriatrics. The Section on Geriatrics was formed in 1978 by a dedicated group of volunteers who were passionate about advancing physical therapy care for the aging. The section represents and serves over 5,000 members with a wide ar-

ray of services. We welcome student involvement in our committees.

Section on Geriatrics membership is only \$15 for students who are APTA members. Joining a Section while you are still a student is an affordable way to learn more about an area of practice, network with national leaders, and to experience

an APTA Section. Member benefits are listed on the left, and we are always happy to hear from you about how we can better serve students!



Opportunities for Students and New Professionals

SECTION ON GERIATRICS, APTA

1111 N Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 22301

Phone: 800/999-2782 x3238
Fax: 703/706-8575
E-mail: geriatrics@apta.org

www.geriaticsppt.org

Join the Section today
by visiting
www.apta.org,
or by calling
800/999-2782!

Each year we offer a Student Brochure Contest where students may win free Section membership, a Student Membership Contest, a Student Research Award, a Fellowship, and an Adopt-A-Doc program for post-professional doctoral students. More information can be found under "Section Awards" on our website. We also welcome your involvement as volunteers and leaders: see our website for current opportunities.

We would love to have you as a Section Member.

Free resources for all at www.geriaticsppt.org! We have consumer brochures for you to print and use at health fairs, a listserv, free *Journal of Geriatric Physical Therapy* articles, and more!

What Physical Therapists Working with Aging Adults Do

Working with Aging Adults in Physical Therapy Includes:

- Helping patients / clients to become as functionally independent as possible.
- Performing an examination and evaluation to determine impairments and functional limitations; arriving at a diagnosis related to practice patterns concerned with neuromuscular, musculoskeletal, cardiovascular/pulmonary & integumentary systems; referring patients to other health care providers.
- Specifying a prognosis, including a plan of care based on:
 - Communicating with other professionals involved in the individual's care
 - Patient / client education
 - Personalized short and long-term goals
 - Direct interventions (including: therapeutic exercise, balance training / fall prevention; orthotics & prosthetics, TENS and FES, manual therapy, seating & mobility systems, functional training, wound care, adaptive equipment, and environmental modifications)
- Assessing the outcomes of the physical therapy services provided to the older individual
- Providing services in a range of settings [e.g., wellness clinics, acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, in-patient (or sub-acute) rehabilitation, out-patient clinics, home health care, work and recreational environments, and via consultation].
- Advocate for the health, wellness, fitness, and physical function needs of the aging adult with and to internal and external communities.

Questions? Contact geriatrics@apta.org.