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CMS rescinds Transmittal 65 on inpatient therapy policies

On January 26, 2007, CMS issued Transmittal 65. This policy was designed to bring into line many policies for Part A and Part B, including documentation standards and qualifications of PTAs. After APTA and other organizations raised concerns about the potential impact of the policies as published, CMS made the decision to rescind Transmittal 65. For more details of the policy, please visit the link below. (If the link does not function, copy the entire link and paste it into your web browser.)

<http://www.apta.org/AM/Template.cfm?Template=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&ContentID=38256>

Section to Propose Motions to the '07 House of Delegates

The Section on Geriatrics will be introducing five motions in the 2007 House of Delegates. They were developed by the Task Force on Promoting Physical Therapists as Exercise Experts for the Aging Population (aka Exercise Task Force). Their objective is to increase awareness and engage support of the Association in educating the public and other health care practitioners about our expertise for preventing impairments and disability through providing services to prevent, detect, and manage disease. The major concepts of these motions are as follows:

1. Institute the concept of an annual visit to your physical therapist
2. Initiate a marketing plan to implement the concept of an annual visit to your physical therapist
3. Investigate the possibility of having physical therapists included in the Welcome to Medicare visit
4. Have physical therapists serve as exercise role models (stated as a resolution)
5. Develop a marketing plan to assure that patients seen by nurse practitioners who should be on an exercise program are referred to physical therapists.

Please keep in touch with your chapter delegates and encourage discussion surrounding these issues, which reach beyond the specialty of geriatrics to the full scope of physical therapy practice. If you support these motions, you can contact your chapter delegates,

initiate discussions at district or chapter meetings etc. and voice support for the motions. The APTA 2007 House of Delegates will be held in Washington, DC, May 21-23. Although only chapter, section, assembly, and caucus delegates sit in the House proper, and only chapter delegates may vote, all APTA members are welcome to attend and sit in the gallery.

Get Involved in the Section on Geriatrics

There are a range of positions currently open: see www.geriatricspt.org and click on “About Us” for more info! Open positions include Membership Chair, PR Chair, Advocates to the States, Web Connection members, and more. Some positions have an application deadline of 4/30. Don’t be shy- we’d love to have you involved!

Brand new positions: Regional Course Leaders. We have divided the country into four regions, and will appoint a “Regional Course Leader” to each region. Each Regional Leader will work to coordinate at least one course in their region each year. This is a great opportunity for an organized volunteer to make a very meaningful contribution to the Section and the profession, by expanding the continuing education available in their region.

2007 Section on Geriatrics Regional Courses

Don’t miss these excellent opportunities for continuing education!

April 14-15, 2007: Manual Physical Therapy for the Geriatric Patient

Contact Hours: 13.25

Denver, CO

Course sold out. Similar information will be offered in our September course: see course outline to see if it is right for you. . . .

September 29 & 30, 2007: Exercise and Manual Interventions for Osteoporosis and Postural Change

Contact Hours: 15

Presenter: Carleen Lindsey, PT, MSc, GCS

Dates: September 29 & 30, 2007 (8am – 5pm each day)

Location: Mary Greeley Medical Center, Ames, IA

More Info & Registration Form: <http://www.geriatricspt.org/members/meetings.cfm>

New Home Study Course for 2008: You save \$100!

Section on Geriatrics members may purchase the newest Home Study course at this time. As always, Section members get a sizable discount when purchasing continuing education.

The newest course is called “Topics in Geriatrics: Volume 3,” and is worth 30 contact hours. The topics include:

- **Physical Therapy Applications for Assessing and Counseling Older Drivers**—*Cheryl LaFollette Anderson, PT, PhD, MBA, GCS*
- **Bariatric Geriatrics: Physical Therapy Management of Older Adults who are Obese**—*Michael L. Puthoff, PT, PhD*
- **Fall Prevention**—*Celinda P. Evitt, PT, PhD, GCS*
- **Health Promotions in Geriatric Care: The Collaboration Between Physical Therapy and Public Health**—*Kathryn K. Brewer, PT, GCS, MEd*
- **Exercise Prescription for Older Adults**—*Dale Avers, PT, DPT, PhD and Patrick VanBeveren, PT, DPT, MA, OCS, CSCS*
- **Successful Aging: Biopsychosocial and Environmental Implications for Physical Therapist Practice**—*Mary Thompson, PT, PhD, GCS*

You can order today by calling 877/766-3452, or by visiting www.geriatricspt.org and clicking “Education” to download an order form. Course will be ready to ship to you in June 2007. We have five other Home Study Courses available as well: visit www.geriatricspt.org to order!

APTA Audio Conference

Medicare's New Quality Reporting Program: PTs Qualify for a 1.5% Bonus Payment in 2007

2-Hour Live Audio Conference
 Thursday, April 12, 2007
 3:30 pm-5:00 pm, Eastern Standard Time
 Registration ends Monday, April 9 at midnight EST.

Featured Speakers:

Susan Nedza, MD, MBA, FACEP, CMO: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Rhea Cohn, PT, DPT: American Physical Therapy Association

Ken Harwood, PT, PhD, CIE: American Physical Therapy Association

For more information, visit www.apta.org, click “Education,” and “Audio Conferences.”

Featured Section Membership Benefit

Discounts on Web Classifieds

Members get a 50% discount to place a web classified at www.geriatricspt.org. Got a class, job opening, or product to advertise? Also take advantage of our 2007 special: advertise for three months and your ad will remain on the site through December 2007 for free! That’s nine months of advertising for \$60!

APTA Benefit- access to Open Door

APTA’s Open Door service gives all APTA members a free subscription to ProQuest and CINAHL. Take a moment today and research an issue that is relevant to you. Go to

www.apta.org and click “Research.” You will also see the Section on Geriatrics’ Journal listed there.

APTA Legislative Alert: Medicare Direct Access Legislation Re-introduced!

The American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) strongly supports the re-introduction of the Medicare Patient Access to Physical Therapist Act of 2007 (HR 1552/S. 932). This legislation would allow Medicare beneficiaries to directly access physical therapists for outpatient services as authorized by state law.

To get more info and learn how you can help:

http://www.apta.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Direct_Access&Template=/TaggedPage/TaggedPageDisplay.cfm&TPLID=187&ContentID=18637

Recent Research in Gerontology

The titles of the following articles should link to the abstracts. If this is not working for you, please visit www.apta.org, click on “Research,” on the left, click on “Open Door,” then click on “Current Research in Physical Therapy.”

[Am J Phys Med Rehabil](#). 2007 Feb;86(2):93-103.

Functional vs. strength training in disabled elderly outpatients.
Krebs DE, Scarborough DM, McGibbon CA.

[Am J Phys Med Rehabil](#). 2007 Feb 12; [Epub ahead of print]

Effects of exercise training programs on walking competency after stroke: a systematic review.

van de Port IG, Wood-Dauphinee S, Lindeman E, Kwakkel G.

[Ann Rheum Dis](#). 2007 Jan 12; [Epub ahead of print]

Reliability of the ICF core set for rheumatoid arthritis.
Uhlig T, Lillemo S, Moe RH, Stamm T, Cieza A, et al.

[Arch Phys Med Rehabil](#). 2007 Feb;88(2):218-27.

Recovery of standing balance and health-related quality of life after mild or moderately severe stroke.

Garland SJ, Ivanova TD, Mochizuki G.

[Cochrane Database Syst Rev](#). 2007 Jan 24;(1):CD001920.

Physiotherapy treatment approaches for the recovery of postural control and lower limb function following stroke.

Pollock A, Baer G, Pomeroy V, Langhorne P.

[J Clin Nurs](#). 2007 Feb;16(2):282-8.
Early mobilization of acute stroke patients.
Arias M, Smith LN.

[J Rehabil Med](#). 2007 Jan;39(1):43-8.
Little therapy, little physical activity: Rehabilitation within the first 14 days of organized stroke unit care.
Bernhardt J, Chan J, Nicola I, Collier JM.

[Phys Ther](#). 2007 Feb 20; [Epub ahead of print] [FULL TEXT]
Validation of the comprehensive International Classification of Functioning, Disability and health core set for rheumatoid arthritis: the perspective of physical therapists.
Kirchberger I, Glaessel A, Stucki G, Cieza A.

[Phys Ther](#). 2007 Mar;87(3): 282-91. [FULL TEXT]
Determinants of satisfaction with community reintegration in older adults with chronic stroke: role of balance self-efficacy.
Pang MY, Eng JJ, Miller WC.

[Physiother Res Int](#). 2006 Dec;11(4):228-34.
Co-variation of tests commonly used in stroke rehabilitation.
Langhammer B, Stanghelle JK.

[Tohoku J Exp Med](#). 2007;211(2):141-9. [FULL TEXT]
Neural adjustment in the activation of the lower leg muscles through daily physical exercises in community-based elderly persons.
Maejima H, Murase A, Sunahori H, Kanetada Y, Otani T, et al.

Thank you for your membership in the Section on Geriatrics!