



Message from the Practice Committee

The Practice Committee increases Academy of Neurologic Physical Therapy involvement with the Departments of Government Affairs and Reimbursement at APTA. Participates in activities, which promote and modify the practice of neurologic physical therapy. Serves as a resource to accrediting agencies to establish guidelines to neurologic practice.

Visit the Academy of Neurologic Physical Therapy website

Hello Academy Members!

The ANPT Practice Committee is pleased to bring you Part 1 of the next round of practice highlights and updates. Please scroll down to view resources on payment and practice reform. You will also find ways to utilize APTA resources to stay up on best practice. Stay tuned for Part 2 of the Message from the Practice Committee which will come out next week and highlight new resources available from ANPT workgroups.

The Practice Committee is also excited to announce the new Practice Resources page that can be found on the ANPT website (<http://neuropt.org/practice-resources>). This new tab now houses previous Messages from the Practice Committee as other resources to advance your practice such as EDGE recommendations on outcome measures, Clinical Practice Guidelines resources, and resources from the Health Promotion and Wellness Knowledge Translation Taskforce.

Payment and Practice Updates Group and Concurrent Therapy Calculation Changes in SNF Will it impact your program?

The new Patient Driven Payment Model (PDPM) in SNF settings will calculate minutes of therapy for group and concurrent therapy differently than under the current RUG-IV payment system. The table below outlines the differences in the two payment models which was presented in a webinar hosted by the APTA, the Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy, and the Education Leadership Partnership. The full webinar and handout are available on

the APTA website at <https://www.apta.org/Payment/Medicare/NewPaymentModels/>

Type of Therapy	RUG – IV	PDPM
Individual (Example: Individual PT 2,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1:1 therapy (No limit) Minutes counted at 100% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1:1 therapy (No limit) Minutes counted at 100%
Concurrent (Example: Concurrent 600)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 residents treated at the same time but performing different activities (No Limit) ½ of minutes counted towards total minutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 residents treated at the same time but performing different activities (Group and Concurrent combined not to exceed 25%) 100% of minutes counted towards total minutes
Group (Example: 1,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 residents performing similar exercises (not to exceed 25%) ¼ of minutes counted toward total minutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-6 residents performing similar exercises (Group and Concurrent combined not to exceed 25%) ¼ of minutes counted toward total minutes
Example Total % Under Payment Model	Total PT Minutes: 2,550 Group Therapy Minutes: 250 Ratio of Group/Total: 9.8%	Total PT Minutes: 3,600 Total Concurrent & Group Minutes: 1,600 Ratio of C&G/Total = .44 or 44%

The example in the table above is modeled after an example found in the CMS Fact Sheet: Concurrent and Group Therapy Limits: https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/SNFPPS/Downloads/PDPM_Fact_Sheet_Template_CGLimit_v5_508.pdf

Note to Clinical Educators:

If your program utilizes concurrent therapy charges frequency when a student and CI are both treating a patient at the same time (i.e. treating 2 patients at the same time, but performing different activities), you may want to consider alternative arrangements to allow students to demonstrate independence in patient care while maintaining compliance with the 25% limit on group and concurrent therapy services.

Diversity/Equity/Inclusion (DEI)

Multiple motions came before the House of Delegates this summer regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) including RC 24-19: INCREASING PROFESSIONAL DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION IN CLINICAL, EDUCATIONAL, AND RESEARCH SETTINGS : That the American Physical Therapy Association, in collaboration with stakeholders, identify and implement best-practice strategies to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion within the profession of physical therapy to include clinical, educational, and research settings to better meet the needs of society.

How is APTA getting involved?

- The APTA Strategic Plan includes making the APTA an inclusive organization that reflects the diversity of the society that the profession serves with multiple action items to promote diversity in our profession.
- APTA to collaborate with state chapters on DEI.

What can you do to get involved?

- Participate or contribute to the Celebration of Diversity, held on October 19, 2019 at the Museum of Flight in Seattle, WA ,during the APTA Education Leadership Conference. Proceeds go towards Minority Scholarships.
- Check out this Health Disparities APTA Video developed from a focus group: <https://youtu.be/u2ZhiSS2Rk>
- Check out suggestions from the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT): <https://www.wcpt.org/policy/ps-diversity>

APTA Supports New Bill That Protects Manual CRT Devices From Bidding

House lawmakers re-introduce language that would exempt manual complex rehab wheelchairs from the competitive bid program and also protect accessories for those chairs.

Two lawmakers have re-launched legislation in the House that would permanently exempt manual complex rehab wheelchairs from competitive bidding.

The bill, H.R. 2293, would also stop Medicare from applying bidding-derived reimbursement rates to accessories for manual complex rehab chairs for 18 months. Representatives John Larson (D-Conn.) and Lee Zeldin (R-N.Y.) launched the Protecting Access to Complex Rehab Manual Wheelchairs Act, which re-introduces legislative language that originally debuted in 115th Congress, but lapsed when that Congress's term ended.

For more information about this bill and others that the APTA is supporting, check out: <http://www.apta.org/PTinMotion/News/2019/04/26/CongressionalRoundupApril2019>
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Concussion and Mild TBI Updates

Concussion Awareness and Education Act H.R. 280 of 2019

Despite the growing prevalence of concussions among student-athletes and military service members, there is no comprehensive system for acquiring accurate data on the incidence, treatment, and prevention of concussions.

The Concussion Awareness and Education Act, sponsored by Joyce Beatty (OH-D), would direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to conduct concussion research and establish program to identify, formulate, and disseminate recommendations for education, treatment, and prevention of concussion. Presently, the bill has 36 bipartisan co-sponsors and is awaiting further consideration in the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. For more information check out: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/280/text>

CDC Pediatric Mild TBI Guidelines are now available.

This document includes 19 recommendations focused on diagnosis, prognosis, and management across a continuum of care for pediatric mild TBI. The full guideline and additional resources from the CDC can be accessed on the CDC website.

<https://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/PediatricmTBIGuideline.html>

Keeping up with Best Practice: APTA Resources Can Help!

PT Now Resources:

Recently added Clinical Practice Guidelines related to Neurology include:

- Cerebral Palsy in Adults: <https://www.ptnow.org/clinical-practice-guideline-detail/cerebral-palsy-in-adults-ng119>
- Disorders of Consciousness: <https://www.ptnow.org/clinical-practice-guideline-detail/practice-guideline-update-recommendations-summary->
- Headaches Associated with Neck Pain: <https://www.ptnow.org/clinical-practice->

- [guideline-detail/non-pharmacological-management-of-persistent-heada](https://www.ptnow.org/Tips)
• New resources on how to use PTNow: <https://www.ptnow.org/Tips>

APTA Engage

[APTA Engage](#), APTA's new volunteer portal, will make it easier to find opportunities to serve the association, both nationally and locally. The new engagement platform will evolve over time, including the creation of micro- volunteering opportunities for those who want to make a positive impact with a smaller time commitment.

Interested applicants for national or state volunteer groups should **opt-in** and complete a volunteer interest profile in APTA Engage to be eligible for all volunteer opportunities as they become available throughout the year. To apply for an open position, update your profile, select the opportunity you are interested in, select "Apply Now," and answer any questions to indicate how you'd be an asset to the group. Please look for announcements regarding these volunteer opportunities in *PT in Motion: News* and other communication channels.

Coming up next: Special Interest Group and Knowledge Translation Task Force Highlights. Stay Tuned!

The ANPT Practice Committee welcomes your feedback and questions. Please send all inquiries to Heather Knight at info@neuropt.org.

The Practice Committee

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