

GUIDELINES: PHYSICAL THERAPIST SCOPE OF PRACTICE BOD G03-01-09-29 [Retitled: Model Definition of Physical Therapy for State Practice Acts; Amended BOD 03-00-17-39; BOD 02-97-03-06; BOD 03-95-24-64; BOD 06-94-03-04; BOD 03-93-18-46; BOD 03-86-22-85; Initial BOD 11-78-45-132] [Guideline]

Physical therapy, which is limited to the care and services provided by or under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist, includes:

- 1) examining (history, system review and tests and measures) individuals with impairment, functional limitation, and disability or other health-related conditions in order to determine a diagnosis, prognosis, and intervention; tests and measures may include the following:
 - aerobic capacity/endurance
 - anthropometric characteristics
 - arousal, attention, and cognition
 - assistive and adaptive devices
 - circulation (arterial, venous, lymphatic)
 - cranial and peripheral nerve integrity
 - environmental, home, and work (job/school/play) barriers
 - ergonomics and body mechanics
 - gait, locomotion, and balance
 - integumentary integrity
 - joint integrity and mobility
 - motor function (motor control and motor learning)
 - muscle performance (including strength, power, and endurance)
 - neuromotor development and sensory integration
 - orthotic, protective, and supportive devices
 - pain
 - posture
 - prosthetic requirements
 - range of motion (including muscle length)
 - reflex integrity
 - self-care and home management (including activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living)
 - sensory integrity
 - ventilation, and respiration/gas exchange
 - work (job/school/play), community, leisure integration or reintegration (including instrumental activities of daily living)

- 2) alleviating impairment and functional limitation by designing, implementing, and modifying therapeutic interventions that include, but are not limited to:
 - coordination, communication and documentation
 - patient/client-related instruction
 - therapeutic exercise
 - functional training in self-care and home management (including activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living)
 - functional training in work (job/school/play) and community and leisure integration or reintegration activities (including instrumental activities of daily living, work hardening, and work conditioning)
 - manual therapy techniques (including mobilization/manipulation)
 - prescription, application, and, as appropriate, fabrication of devices and equipment (assistive, adaptive, orthotic, protective, supportive, and prosthetic)
 - airway clearance techniques
 - integumentary repair and protection techniques
 - electrotherapeutic modalities

- physical agents and mechanical modalities
- 3) preventing injury, impairment, functional limitation, and disability, including the promotion and maintenance of health, wellness, fitness, and quality of life in all age populations
 - 4) engaging in consultation, education, and research

Relation to Vision 2020: Evidence Based Practice; (State Government Affairs, ext 8533)

Explanation of Reference Numbers:

BOD P00-00-00-00 stands for Board of Directors/month/year/page/vote in the Board of Directors Minutes; the "P" indicates that it is a position (see below). For example, BOD P11-97-06-18 means that this position can be found in the November 1997 Board of Directors minutes on Page 6 and that it was Vote 18.

P: Position | S: Standard | G: Guideline | Y: Policy | R: Procedure