Summary of House of Delegates Activities
American Physical Therapy Association
(APTA)
House of Delegates
June 2013

[NOTE; A POST-HOUSE PACKET CONTAINING THE FULL MOTION LANGUAGE IS AVAILABLE AT THE HOUSE COMMUNITY UNDER “DOCUMENTS” IN THE ARCHIVE’S 2013 FOLDER]

Introduction
This document is meant to provide information on activities of the 2013 House of Delegates. It is a summary of actions, not a verbatim record of motion language.

The minutes of the House and resultant policy changes will be available by September 23.

The minutes serve as the formal record of the House of Delegates.

RC 1-13 CORRESPONDING MEMBERSHIP FOR STUDENT MEMBERS
PASSED (Packet I)
• Creation of a chapter corresponding membership category for physical therapist and physical therapist students
• Corresponding members have these rights and privileges
  – Attend chapter meetings
  – Speak and debate at chapter meetings
  – Receive electronic chapter publications and communication
  – Access to chapter information resources

RC 2-13 THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ACADEMIC PHYSICAL THERAPY
PASSED (Packet II)
• Creation of ACAPT as an APTA component whose purpose shall be to take a leadership role in setting direction for physical therapist academic and clinical education
• ACAPT will have member institutions
  – Representing CAPTE accredited physical therapist education programs that are represented to ACAPT by individuals who are APTA members

RC 3-13 ACAPT AS A CONSULTANT TO THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES
PASSED (Packet I)
• Named ACAPT as a consultant to the House of Delegates

RC 4A-13 VOTE FOR SECTION DELEGATES IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES
WITHDRAWN (Packet I)
• Provides a vote for between 2 and 5 delegates for each section, depending on the size of the Section
• Maintains the size of the House at approximately 400

RC 4B-13 VOTE FOR SECTION DELEGATES IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES
DEFEATED (Packet I)
• Provides a vote for one delegate for each section
• Enlarges the House of Delegates to 418, thereby preserving current Chapter representation

RC 5-13 ELECTION CYCLE FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PASSED (Packet I)
  • Documents the current process of three year terms for the Board of Directors, to meet requirements of Illinois incorporation law

RC 6-13 SIZE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WITHDRAWN (Packet I)
  • Adds 2 members to the Board of Directors

RC 7-13, RC 8-13 ROLE OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PASSED (Packet II)
  • Defines the role of the House in setting policy for the profession and the fiduciary duty of the Board of Directors to manage the Association

RC 9-13 COMPOSITION OF THE REFERENCE COMMITTEE
WITHDRAWN (Packet I)
  • Confirms all House Officers as members of the Reference Committee

RC 10-13 ROLE OF THE REFERENCE COMMITTEE
PASSED (Packet I)
  • Adds use of main motion criteria and bylaws review to the role of the Reference Committee

RC 11-13 MAIN MOTION CRITERIA
PASSED (Packet I)
  • Creates Main Motion Criteria
    – Statement of intended outcome
    – Motion is national in scope
    – Background information provided
    – Motion concept disseminated to delegates, when possible
    – Description of fiscal impact

RC 12-13 Background Papers
PASSED (Packet I)
  • Reference Committee to review and recommend to Board of Directors motions that need background papers
  • Board or CEO determine which motions need background papers
  • Authors of motions will be consulted in development of the background papers
  • Released at least 1 month prior to House

RC 13-13 DELEGATE ROSTER
PASSED (Packet I)
  • Sets the due date for delegate rosters as August 30 of each year

RC 14-13 VISION FOR THE PROFESSION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
PASSED (Packet III)
  • The vision of the profession of physical therapy is
– Transforming society by optimizing movement to improve the human experience

RC 15-13 GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THE VISION
PASSED (Packet III)
• Creates principles in the following areas
  – Identity
  – Quality
  – Collaboration
  – Value
  – Innovation
  – Consumer-centricity
  – Access/Equity

RC 16-13 PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE UNITED STATES HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
PASSED (Packet II)
• Replaces current policy
• Includes principles of
  – Access to Care
  – Quality of Care
  – Value-based Payment
  – Team-based Care

RC 17-13 STANDARDS OF PRACTICE
PASSED (Packet I)
• Clarifies that patients are not “discharged” from care, but rather that physical therapists develop long-term relationships with patients, with conclusion of episodes of care over the span of that relationship

RC 18-13 EPISODE OF CARE
PASSED (Packet I)
• Directs that the concepts of RC 17-13 be included in APTA communications

RC 19-13 PUBLIC POLICY FOCUS
PASSED (Packet I)
• The public policy and payment efforts of APTA shall continue to focus on opportunities to demonstrate to society the value of physical therapists’ participation in the health care system and in improving individuals’ health, quality of life and functional performance; and,
• These efforts shall be focused on consumers achieving access to medically necessary or educationally related physical therapist services and recognition of the entire professional scope of practice.

RC 20-13 RESCIND POLICY ON DIRECT ACCESS AND PHYSICIAN STATUS
PASSED (Packet I)
• That the current specific policy be rescinded in favor of the broader policy outlined in RC 19-13
RC 21-13 NOMENCLATURE FOR PROVISION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
PASSED (Packet I)
• “Physical therapist services” or “physical therapist practice” should be the preferred nomenclature when referring to the provision of physical therapy
• Proviso, that changes should be made in current documents as appropriate and efficient

RC 22-13 PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF PEDIATRIC OVERUSE INJURIES
REFERRED to Board of Directors (Packet III)
• Promotes the role of the physical therapist
  – In preventing and managing over-use injuries
  – As a member of the athletic health care team
• Supports development of clinical guidelines for this aspect of practice

RC 23-13 PLAN TO ACHIEVE THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST’S ROLE IN THE PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF PEDIATRIC OVERUSE INJURIES
WITHDRAWN (Packet I)
• Directs that a plan be developed to implement RC 22-13

RC 24-13 PHYSICAL THERAPY DOCUMENTATION REFORM
PASSED (Packet I)
• The APTA shall pursue documentation standards for physical therapy services that primarily focus on clinical reasoning and decision-making.

RC 25-13 THE ROLE OF PHYSICAL THERAPY IN HEALTH MANAGEMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH CHRONIC DISABILITY
PASSED (Packet I)
• The APTA supports and advocates for timely and regular access to physical therapy services, rehabilitation equipment, and assistive/adaptive devices for children and adults with severe chronic physical disability, with particular attention to the health needs of the population who are disabled and are dual eligible under Medicare and Medicaid, so that all people with chronic disability will experience better health and improved life participation.

RC 26-13 PLAN FOR MANAGEMENT MODEL FOR PEOPLE WITH CHRONIC DISABILITY
PASSED (Packet I)
• Directs that a plan be developed to meet the intent of RC 25-13
• Interim Report to the House in 2014
• Final Report to the House in 2015

RC 27-13 ACCESS TO DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME)
PASSED (Packet I)
• The APTA supports PTs as authorized prescribers of DME, which is integral to the PT management of the patient; and,
• The APTA supports patient’s/client’s access to high-quality DME and services by advocating choice, access, quality, cost-effectiveness, and adequate funding to allow patients/clients to live active and productive lives in their homes and communities.
RC 28-13 PLAN TO ACHIEVE PHYSICAL THERAPISTS AS AUTHORIZED PROVIDERS OF DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
WITHDRAWN (Packet I)
• Directs that a plan be developed to implement RC 27-13

RC 29-13 TRAINING PROGRAM FOR PHYSICAL THERAPISTS TO PERFORM PEER REVIEW
PASSED (Packet II)
• That the APTA review current resources and develop needed new resources in order to provide and promote a process for training and recognition of PTs to perform peer review of physical therapy services.
• A report to the 2014 House of Delegates, with plans for implementation of the program no later than January 1, 2015.

RC 30-13 ELECTION TO HONORARY MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (Packet I)
• That John Stackpole, PhD, PRP, CPP, be elected as an Honorary Member of the American Physical Therapy Association
• Instructions for accessing the motions

To see the full language for each RC as it was presented to the House:
• Login to APTA > APTA Communities Page > House of Delegates Community > Documents > “Packet I, HOD Handbook, and Background Papers” or “Onsite Packets” for Packet II and III