

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

RESOURCES FOR THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST WORKING TO PREVENT MUSCULOSKELETAL HAZARDS IN THE WORK PLACE AND TREAT THE WORKER FOLLOWING INJURY

The Occupational Health Special Interest Group is breaking with tradition in this edition of *Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Practice*. This space typically includes original articles and research from our members. This specialty practice requires communication with multiple stakeholders, outside of a traditional medical model. Related organizations share information, publish research, and host conferences. These groups may provide opportunities for speaking, sponsorship, or networking. Local chapters look for presenters at regularly scheduled meetings. The descriptions of these organizations have been taken directly from the published information at the respective website. This is not a complete list. Members are encouraged to share additional resources with the group. The information below is intended for those interested in providing work place safety initiatives and in the rehabilitation of workers with injuries.

Orthopaedic Section, APTA: Occupational Health Special Interest Group (OHSIG)

Web address: https://www.orthopt.org/content/special_interest_groups/occupational_health

If you are not a member of the SIG, go to the Orthopaedic Section website, special interest group page, and sign up. It is a benefit of your membership in the Section. The OHSIG is recognized as a leading authority in occupational health physical therapy. The SIG leads by providing professional development, sharing current information, identifying opportunities for outreach and collaboration, and supporting practice and research initiatives. Look up members in your area through the OHSIG web page. Literature review and Podcasts are shared by way of quarterly emails. These are also available for you to review in the archives on the Orthopaedic Section - OHSIG web page.

Facebook group: The OHSIG hosts a Facebook page, limited to OHSIG members. This is a platform to exchange information related to occupational health, work rehab, regulatory issues, upcoming conferences, etc. Request to join at Facebook.com, searching for the Occupational Health SIG.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Occupational Health Building A Successful Practice the Right Way:

This is the first in a series of courses that will be offered by the OHSIG. Members should have received information regarding this course scheduled to take place in Chicago, October 14, 2016. If you did not receive this information, please sign up again as a member of the OHSIG at the web page address listed above. These courses will implement the guiding statements that will be presented at CSM 2017 (see below).

Preconference Course:

Functional Capacity Evaluation, Onsite PT, Job Analysis: What You Need to Know: This preconference course will be sponsored by the Orthopaedic Section, APTA, at the Combined Sections

Meeting (CSM) in San Antonio, Texas, Tuesday and Wednesday, February 14-15, 2017, from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Watch for the opening of registration. Participants will need to be registered for this course by December 1, 2016.

Evidence-based Physical Therapy Clinical Practice Guideline for Work Rehabilitation: You will want to attend the OHSIG Membership Meeting, during CSM in San Antonio. Be the first to get an overview of the Evidence-based PT Clinical Practice Guideline for Work Rehabilitation. The CPG has been a 3-year process, giving guidance to physical therapists based upon clinical research. The implementation plan including educational offerings in best practice will be presented.

Evolving Paradigms In Psychosocial Management of Debilitating Pain Conditions: This session is included during regular programming at CSM. Presenter Michael Sullivan, PhD, is the developer of the Progressive Goal Attainment Program, “P-GAP.” Other meetings of interest during CSM include the Work Rehab CPG meeting, Wednesday, 4:00-6:00 p.m. and the OHSIG Board meeting immediately following at 6:00-9:00 pm.

AMERICAN PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION: DEPARTMENT OF PAYMENT AND PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

Web address: <http://www.apta.org/Payment/WorkersCompensation/>

Wanda Evans, PT, MHS, CKTP, is Senior Payment Specialist at APTA in the department of Payment and Practice Management. She is an invaluable resource keeping us up-to-date with the ever changing payment and policy issues pertaining to worker compensation systems. Find specific state resources on the web page listed above. The information may change. The APTA chapter representatives are asked to help keep the resource up-to-date.

The annual APTA State Policy and Payment Forum is preceded by a one day meeting to which payers are invited. The APTA Insurers’ Forum brings together representatives from the insurance industry, including nurse case managers, medical directors, and payer representatives to discuss current practice and trends in physical therapy, case management, CPT coding, and to solicit feedback from the payer community regarding issues pertinent to physical therapist practice. The most recent annual insurers’ forum was held September 16, 2016, in Pittsburgh, PA.

RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

The following descriptions are included on the organizations’ web pages.

Workers Compensation Research Institute

Web address: wcrinet.org

The Workers Compensation Research Institute is an independent, not-for-profit research organization providing high-quality, objective information about public policy issues involving workers’ compensation systems. Organized in late 1983, the Institute does not take positions on the issues it researches; rather, it provides information obtained through studies and data collection efforts, which conform to recognized scientific methods. Objectivity is further ensured through rigorous, unbiased peer-review procedures.

Society for Human Resource Management

Web address: <https://www.shrm.org>

Look for a chapter in your area. Regular meetings are held with invited speakers.

National Council of Self-Insurers

Web address: <http://natcouncil.com>

The National Council of Self-Insurers is an organization of corporate, state association, and professional members. The Council represents 3500 employers. The initial and primary interest of the National Council of Self-Insurers is workers' compensation and particularly self-insurance of the workers' compensation liability. It speaks at the national level on issues affecting both subjects. The Council also serves as a national education forum for employers and provides information to self-insured companies and state self-insurer associations. The 2017 NCSI Annual Meeting will be held in San Diego, CA, June 4-7, 2017.

Insurance Rehabilitation Study Group

Web address: <http://irsghome.org/>

The Insurance Rehabilitation Study Group's (IRSG) mission is to provide an educational forum for the insurance industry to explore and develop concepts and programs of effective medical and rehabilitation services that pertain to all lines of insurance. The vision of the IRSG is to serve as an innovative leader by promoting and advocating quality care and service delivery; through education and shared knowledge between members, the insurance industry, and the health care community.

American Society of Safety Engineers

Web address: www.asse.org

Founded in 1911, the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) is the world's oldest professional safety society. The ASSE promotes the expertise, leadership, and commitment of its members, while providing them with professional development, advocacy, and standards development. It also sets the occupational safety, health, and environmental community's standards for excellence and ethics.

The ASSE is a global association of occupational safety professionals representing more than 36,000 members worldwide. The Society is also a visible advocate for OSH professionals through proactive government affairs at the federal and state levels, and in member-led relationships with key federal safety and health agencies.

Members create safer work environments by preventing workplace fatalities, injuries, and illnesses. Besides recording less lost time and lower workers' compensation costs, organizations with strong safety performance enjoy increased productivity, a better reputation, and higher employee satisfaction.

American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine

Web address: www.acoem.org

Founded in 1916, the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) is the nation's largest medical society dedicated to promoting the health of workers through preventive medicine, clinical care, research, and education. A dynamic group of physicians encompassing specialists in a variety of medical practices is united via the College to develop positions and policies on vital issues relevant to the practice of preventive medicine both within and outside of the workplace. While national in scope, the College is composed of local component societies in the United States and Canada, whose members hold scientific meetings and net-

work on a regular basis. The ACOEM sponsors the annual American Occupational Health Conference, the nation's largest conference of its kind, each spring.

The College also conducts continuing education courses including Foundations in Occupational Medicine, Occupational Medicine Board Review and Impairment and Disability Evaluation, and offers training for MRO Drug/Alcohol Testing and Commercial Driver Medical Examiners. In 1997, ACOEM introduced the Corporate Health Achievement Award to recognize the finest health programs in North American companies.

ACOEM publishes the monthly *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, ACOEM E-News, *MRO Update* newsletter, *CDME Review* newsletter, and books including the *Occupational Medicine Practice Guidelines*.

Many articles are open to access at the ACOEM website.

RELATED CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS OF INTEREST

National Ergonomics Conference and Ergo Expo

November 15-18, 2016, Caesars Palace, Las Vegas

3rd International FCE Research Conference was held September 28-29, 2016 in Wijk aan Zee, Netherlands. Web address: <http://vroegeinterventie.nl/>

International FCE Research Conference

The International FCE Research Conference serves as an international forum for research and knowledge implementation related to work assessment and functional capacity evaluations, across all causes of work incapacity. Participants include leading international experts in the field—scientists, clinicians, and other users of FCE information.

RESOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

State departments of labor house policy resources, statute and rule information. A good example is Washington State Department of Labor and Industry. Web address: <http://www.lni.wa.gov/>. Washington Physical Therapists have been instrumental in helping employers, medical providers, and employees with research methods in prevention and treatment for persons with worker-related injuries.

Bureau of Labor Statistics: Web address: <http://www.bls.gov/home.htm>

The "Incidence Rate Calculator and Comparison Tool" can be found at <http://data.bls.gov/iirc/>. Use this to compare the injury rate of your client company with other like companies, before and after any intervention or services.

The **Occupational Requirements Survey (ORS)** is a survey conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) National Compensation Survey (NCS) program in association with the Social Security Administration (SSA). The ORS seeks to provide job characteristics data to help the SSA in their disability determination process. Specifically, the ORS will gather job-related information regarding physical demands, environmental conditions, mental and cognitive demands, and vocational preparation requirements.

The Center for Disease Control/National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health: Web address: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/safepatient/>

Newsletters/Blogs: This information is provided for information only and is not intended to endorse any service or product.

Claimwire: Web address: <https://www.claimwire.com/>

Managed Care Matters: Web address: <http://www.joepaduda.com/>