

EXPANSION OF PUBLISHED LITERATURE RELATED TO PHYSICAL THERAPISTS AND IMAGING

Several manuscripts are in development subsequent to research having been completed and still on-going relating to physical therapists and referral for imaging or the use of ultrasound imaging. By the time this *OPTP* appears in your mailbox, some may have been published and others are definitely forthcoming. One project we will be tackling in the future is a running reference list on the Imaging SIG webpage. The logistics of this are still being worked out, but we want a readily accessible list of references for those interested in this topic. Likewise, if you have just such a publication or a manuscript that has been accepted, please let us know so we can add it to the list.

REIMBURSEMENT

With referral for imaging privileges gradually expanding, we are incrementally achieving one of the primary objectives of the Imaging SIG. That success on the legal scope of practice front, however, does not guarantee our success in another critical area: reimbursement. With physical therapist use of both ultrasound imaging to complement clinical examinations and referral for other forms of imaging toward patient management, we are not guaranteed that reimbursement for those services for the patient by third-party payers will occur. There appears to be significant variability across locations and plans in whether reimbursement occurs or not.

The Imaging SIG will be forming a task force to address this. Clearly, this barrier must change for the expansion of imaging privileges to be successful. If you have an interest in this area and particularly if you have personal experience in this area, please contact us.

STRATEGIC PLAN

We continue to work in research, education, and practice in our strategic plan. This plan was formulated and initiated 3 years ago. In the coming months, we will be revisiting this plan for your input and for areas of particular emphasis that you see as important. Of course, we want your participation in this process, particularly if you have knowledge or experience in those related focus areas.

ULTRASOUND WEBINARS IN ASSOCIATION WITH AIUM

We are still looking for additional suggestions for physical therapist led webinars to be done with the American Institute for Ultrasound in Medicine. Over the past two years, they have sought our input into their educational programming. If you have suggestions for future webinars—both by topic and/or by presenter, please pass on your suggestions to us.

Remember that just two short years ago, AIUM did not recognize physical therapists in their training manuals and other official documents. Now, they ask us to help in their educational programming.

Those webinars remain available for free viewing by going through the website aium.org or by going to YouTube and finding AIUM's channel by simply searching for "AIUM webinar series." This is great continuing education at no cost.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

If there is an effort toward changing the scope of practice to include referral for imaging in your jurisdiction, please let us know. Word of these efforts sometimes travels slowly.

IMAGING SIG MEETINGS & COMMUNICATION

In addition to our live member meetings at Combined Sections Meeting, the Imaging SIG will conduct at least one web-based meeting in the year. These are usually announced 3 to 4 weeks in advance by email and through our social media outlets. If you are unable to attend those while being held real time, recordings of those meetings are available on our webpage on the Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy's website.

Other forms of communication include occasional emails to all Imaging SIG members, our social media, and this publication. Please remember to save @orthopt.org among the safe domains in your email program.

IMAGING SIG WEBPAGE

Please remember to occasionally visit the Imaging SIG's webpage for information and resources. This is the direct link: <https://www.orthopt.org/content/special-interest-groups/imaging>

You can alternately find this by going to the Academy for Orthopaedic Physical Therapy's website and selecting from the "Special Interest Group" page.

Becoming a SIG member is not an additional cost beyond being a member of the Academy. You simply ask to be added as a member by selecting the "Become an I-SIG Member" item on the webpage.

Contacting the Imaging SIG officers, as suggested multiple times on this page, can be done through that page or by simply contacting the President at crhazl00@uky.edu (6th character is a lower case letter "L" followed by two zeros).

CLINICAL IMAGING

Independent Study Course 27.3

Description

This monograph series covers an introduction to the basic principles underlying the science and diagnostic utility of imaging for the physical therapist. The first monograph is a primer that discusses principles of conventional plain film radiographs (x-rays); computed tomography (CT) scans, magnetic resonance imaging, ultrasound imaging; diagnostic ultrasound and rehabilitative ultrasound imaging; and nuclear imaging. The second and third monographs cover imaging for the extremities and spine and its role in the evaluation of select musculoskeletal injuries. Application of the material is enhanced through the presentation of case studies.

For Registration and Fees,
visit orthopt.org

Additional Questions—
Call toll free
800/444-3982

