

**ORTHOPAEDIC SECTION, APTA, INC.
2010 – 2014 STRATEGIC PLAN**

MISSION

To serve as an advocate and resource for practitioners of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy by fostering quality patient/client care and promoting professional growth.

LONG-RANGE VISION

The Orthopaedic Section will be *the* source for the orthopaedic physical therapist

STRATEGIC OUTCOMES:

Standards of Practice

Support the development and dissemination of outcome studies in peer reviewed journals that describe provision of orthopedic physical therapy consistent with current standards of practice.

Education/Professional Development

Increase the breadth and variety of educational and professional opportunities

Public Identity and Promotion of Physical Therapy

Orthopaedic physical therapists, recognized as experts of movement and musculoskeletal care, will realize increased utilization and recognition by consumers and professional groups

Research

Provide resources and support for conducting laboratory and clinical studies to expand the knowledge base for orthopaedic physical therapy and improve patient management.

Advocacy

The Orthopaedic Physical Therapist will be a portal into the healthcare system and be recognized by society as a specialist for the management of individuals with musculoskeletal conditions

STRATEGIC OUTCOMES, OBJECTIVES, STEPS AND ROLES

2010-2014

1. **Standards of Practice**

Support the development and dissemination of outcome studies in peer reviewed journals that describe provision of orthopaedic physical therapy consistent with current standards of practice.

Objective A

Prior to 2015, have 15 ICF-based clinical practice guidelines for common musculoskeletal conditions gain acceptance for inclusion on the AHRQ's National Guidelines Clearinghouse (www.guidelines.gov)

Objective B

Develop a National Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Outcomes Database

2. **Education/Professional Development**

Increase the breadth and variety of educational and professional opportunities

Objective A

Assess possible emerging practice opportunities and if identified provide educational resources for specific practice areas.

Objective B

Assess the need for resources to enhance psychomotor and clinical decision making skills for orthopaedic physical therapists.

Objective C

Incorporate the use of electronic multi-media in OPTP and ISCs

Objective D

Create mechanisms for recognition in sub-specialization within orthopaedic physical therapy

Objective E

Promote the advancement and development of residency and fellowship programs

3. **Public Identity and Promotion of Physical Therapy**

Orthopaedic physical therapists, recognized as experts of movement and musculoskeletal care, will realize increased utilization and recognition by consumers and professional groups

Objective A

Physical therapists will increase their role as unrestricted direct access providers of musculoskeletal care throughout the United States by 2015

Objective B

Develop an alliance with a minimum of 5 professional organizations to work towards the mutual goal of promoting musculoskeletal care by 2015

Objective C

Increase Section Internet presence to improve branding and promotion of the profession by 2015

4. **Research**

Provide resources and support for conducting laboratory and clinical studies to expand the knowledge base for orthopaedic physical therapy and improve patient management.

Objective A

Establish a clinical research network to support multi-center orthopaedic physical therapy research

Objective B

Improve orthopaedic physical therapists' ability to translate and apply evidence into practice

5. Advocacy

The Orthopaedic Physical Therapist will be a portal into the healthcare system and be recognized by society as a specialist for the management of individuals with musculoskeletal conditions

Objective A

Serve as a resource to APTA and State Chapters to strengthen efforts to increase unrestricted direct access to physical therapists

Objective B

Serve as a resource to enhance reimbursement for services provided by orthopaedic physical therapists.

Objective C

Improve communication and advocacy efforts between Orthopaedic Section and State Chapters