

Direct-to-Employer Physical Therapy: Building Supply and Demand
Sponsored by Occupational Health Special Interest Group, Orthopaedic Section
<https://www.orthopt.org/content/special-interest-groups/occupational-health>
APTA-Combined Sections Meeting
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PRESENTERS

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Lorena P. Payne, PT, MPA, OCS
Mike Eisenhart, PT

The World Health Organization and United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention each emphasize the importance of ensuring total worker health. Physical therapists are in unique position to leverage total worker health initiatives, in order to turn the tide of high medical costs and relatively poor health outcomes in the United States. Employers are motivated to lower medical costs, maintain a productive workforce, and reduce out-of-pocket medical expenses. Direct-to-employer physical therapy services can be tailored for specific worker cohorts, in order to reduce risks associated with disabling and expensive chronic diseases. A work group was convened through the American Physical Therapy Association to develop the rationale and toolkits for starting population health programs in the occupational environment. This purpose of this session, sponsored by the Occupational Health Special Interest Group of the American Physical Therapy Association, is to provide an update regarding the Direct-to-Employer Work Group's activities and future directions.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this session, the learner will be able to:

1. Describe total worker health initiatives by the World Health Organization and United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
2. Discuss how program design and implementation would vary based on cohort-specific risk factors
3. Differentiate between population health strategies and current episodic approaches to physical therapy in the occupational setting
4. Articulate examples of population health programs in occupational settings

SESSION OUTLINE

Risk factors in the workplace: prevalence and relevance to physical therapists (Davenport)

- * Occupation-specific factors
- * Chronic disease factors

Offering Services to Groups: Rules to live by, preparing to offer services at the work place (Payne)

- * Measures of success – short and long term
- * Assessing health risk
- * Case Example – light manufacturing

Update on the Direct to Employer Physical Therapy Work Group (Eisenhart)

Panel discussion (all speakers)

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Todd E. Davenport, PT, DPT, MPH, OCS serves as a tenured Associate Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy in the Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California, where he teaches in the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program. Todd is a graduate of the University of Southern California's DPT and Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Residency programs. He is a past clinical research fellow at the Warren G. Magnusson Clinical Center at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. Todd is a graduate of the Master of Public Health program at the Berkeley campus of the University of California. He has been continuously recognized as a Board-certified Orthopedic Clinical Specialist by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties since 2005. Todd is an Associate Editor of the Journal of Orthopaedic and Sports Physical Therapy, as well as a reviewer for several journals in the fields of rehabilitation and rheumatology. In addition to his teaching, scholarship, and service work, Todd practices clinically at the Kaiser Permanente offices in Stockton, California.

Lorena P. Payne, PT, MPA, OCS is the president of the Occupational Health Special Interest Group of the Orthopaedic Section. A practicing physical therapist since 1983, she is board certified in orthopaedic physical therapy since 2000. Lorena is co-author of the work rehabilitation clinical practice guideline submitted for publication in Journal of Orthopaedic and Sports Physical Therapy. She teaches occupational health at University of Montana, Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program. She holds a graduate degree in Public Health Administration from Grand Valley State University. For her entire career, Lorena provided onsite services in diverse industries, with the goal of maintaining a healthy work force. Her volunteer work in Ecuador involves consultation regarding work modification and community support, facilitating options for productivity for otherwise unemployable individuals.

Mike Eisenhart, PT is the managing partner of Pro-Activity Associates a prevention and health promotion practice located in Lebanon, NJ. Mike began developing Pro-Activity's prevention model in 1999 and helped deploy it at scale with his workplace-team beginning in 2001. Mike has been a strong advocate for prevention, health promotion and population health as a featured speaker at numerous conferences and programs over the years. Most recently Mike founded the Academy of Prevention and Health Promotion Therapies. He is also deeply involved with the APTA, recently completing a term as the chapter president of NJ and currently leading the national employer initiative as well as serving as an elected member of the national nominating committee.