



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

OHSIG Q2-3 Newsletter

Respectfully Submitted by Cory Blickenstaff PT, MS, OCS

COVID-19 Impact Survey Results

Between April 24 and May 11, APTA surveyed a representative sample of physical therapists and physical therapist assistants to gauge the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the physical therapy profession. This report is based on responses by more than 5,400 PTs and 1,100 PTAs — members and nonmembers, across practice settings and jurisdictions. [Here are the results.](#)

2020 Election: Call for Candidates

The **OHSIG's Nominating Committee** is seeking qualified candidates for one position open for election:

- **Nominating Committee Member (3-year term)**

If you are interested in running, or know someone who might be interested, please visit this page <https://www.orthopt.org/content/governance/committees/nominating/sig-2020-election> to access the following:

- SIG Potential Candidate Form
- SIG Leadership Power Point presentation
- SIG Rules of Order (containing policies, procedures, and position descriptions)

Deadline for submitting SIG Potential Candidate Form: September 1, 2020.

CSM 2021 Moves to a Virtual Format

APTA has moved CSM to a virtual format due to ongoing health and safety concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The AOPT Education Committee selected the OHSIG submission "Therapy at Work for Total Worker Health®: Making Magic for the Next 100 Years. The speakers are L. Casey Chosewood, MD, MPH, Director of the Office for Total Worker Health®, from NIOSH/CDC, and Kathy Malchev, OT, MPH, Health Services Manager, from Disney Orlando.

Upcoming Events:

The [5th International FCE Research Conference](#) has been postponed until 2021 due to COVID, logistical uncertainty and possible international travel restrictions (governmental and/or employer based). Another round of abstract submissions will be requested after this is rescheduled to respect researcher plans about how to bring forward their work.

Request for Volunteers: State Key Contact Initiative

OHSIG is launching a subcommittee to guide our strategic initiative to establish key contact OHSIG members experts to be a resource for payment policy and service inquiries that relate to occupational health practice. If this interests you, please send an email to express your interest to our OHSIG Vice President, Steve Allison at sallisondpt@fcexpt.com or our OHSIG Membership Chair, Caroline Furtak, at ckfurtak@gmail.com.

Request for Volunteers: Advanced Credential in Occupational Health Practice:

OHSIG is forming a steering subcommittee for our strategic initiative to create an advanced educational credential for therapists who specialize in Occupational Health. We plan to combine an independent study course with a peer review component to qualify and promote occupational health professionals that demonstrate advanced competencies. If this volunteer opportunity interests you, please send an email with a description of your background to Rick Wickstrom at rick@workability.us or to our OHSIG Research Chair, Marc Campo at mcampo@mercy.edu.

Performing DOT physicals: Scope of Practice

North Dakota and Ohio are recent additions to the growing list of States that recognize that it is within the scope of PT practice to perform testing and physical examination of body systems required for Department of Transportation physicals after completing training and certification requirements to become a [Certified Medical Examiner](#) for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Steve Allison and Rick Wickstrom have published an article in the [current edition of OPTP](#) about [The Role of the Physical Therapist to Promote Fitness-For-Duty of Commercial Drivers](#).

Current Concepts: Role of the Physical Therapist in Occupational Health

The Role of the Physical Therapist in Occupational Health subcommittee has been meeting on a regular basis to update this current concepts publication. Team members include Peter McMenamin (subcommittee leader), Rick Wickstrom, Cory Blickenstaff, Jeff Paddock, Diane Newquist, Connie Johnson, Kevin Jones, and Justin Bagley. Stay tuned for further updates on our progress.

Clinical Practice Guideline: Work Rehabilitation

The OHSIG Practice Committee has submitted a draft of the Work Rehab Clinical Practice Guideline to the Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy CPG development group for internal review.

Members Only! Our OHSIG Facebook Closed Group

Don't miss out on the conversations available only to active OHSIG members! Recent posts have included links to re-opening practices amid the COVID-19 pandemic, sleep apnea testing in long distance truck drivers, clinical practice links, and Dept. of Labor impact information.

Join the conversation [link](#) and share recent articles, recommendations, and thoughts!

**As always, thank you for being a part of the Occupational Health
Special Interest Group!**