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Chapter Practice Chair Job Description

Report to: Designated Chapter leadership

Term: Three-year term, with no more than two consecutive terms; time commitment varies based on responsibilities. (Depends on Chapter's bylaws)

Position Objective: To help advance the practice of physical therapy, address practice concerns of the members, serves as a resource for members for state regulations/legislation and the implications for all practice settings within the Chapter. Leads the Practice Committee composed of Chapter members from various practice settings and specialty areas.

Benefits: Serving as Practice Chair provides a unique opportunity to impact and influence the direction and advancement of physical therapist practice. The Practice Chair keeps abreast of current practice trends or issues related to the Chapter or to physical therapist practice in general. The Practice Chair interfaces and communicates with the Practice Committee and the Chapter's Board of Directors to provide leadership for the advancement of best practice within the Chapter. The chair has the opportunity to guide the practice of physical therapy in the Chapter by communicating with members to determine the areas of practice that should be addressed. Using available resources from APTA and other sources, practice knowledge and experience and creativity, you will be able to benefit the profession and make a lasting contribution to physical therapist practice in your Chapter. You will have access to APTA Practice staff to guide you in your responsibilities and provide the information and materials you will need to engage in successful strategies that support physical therapist practice in your state.

Specific Responsibilities: The Practice Chair is responsible for serving as a resource to the Chapter in the area of practice as well as increasing member awareness of available resources and documents related to practice. The Practice Chair provides leadership and vision for the membership by assisting with strategic planning for the Chapter. Guided by APTA policies, positions, and guidelines related to practice and the *Guide to Physical Therapist Practice*, the Practice Chair and committee focuses on areas affecting the future of the profession such as scope of practice, regulation, resources, practice management and innovation, for example.

Chapter Practice Chairs

Responsibilities:

- Develop and implement a Practice Agenda for the Chapter. The Practice Agenda would include those areas where action may be required.
- Develop materials and resources specific to the Chapter's specialty areas that will be helpful for Chapter members.
- Identify areas of PT practice within the Chapter that require the development of policy statements, fact sheets and other resources to advise members on best practice and others to enhance the quality of physical therapist care.



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- Encourage the use of evidence-based practice.
- Function as a resource on the practice of physical therapy.
- Be familiar with the APTA Practice web site resources.
- Provide support, leadership, vision, and communication to members in the area of practice.
- Familiarize yourself with the changing health care environment relevant to physical therapist practice and provide guidance to those members who are trying to adjust to those changes.
- Function as an informational resource to members when addressing their practice questions by developing a network of resources.
- Collaborate with other Chapters on issues and activities of common interest and concern.
- Provide mentorship to facilitate succession planning.

Qualifications: Must be a member of the Chapter. Knowledge of specialty clinical practice and practice management is helpful.

Training and Support: In addition to training offered by your Chapter, APTA Practice Department can provide resources and support.

Support:

- Practice Tools and Resources on <http://www.apta.org/Practice/>
- List of Frequently Asked Practice Questions available by contacting practice_dept@apta.org
- Contact Practice Department at 1-800-999-2782, X3176

Evaluation: In addition to the evaluation opportunities specified by your Chapter, the APTA Practice Department will contact you for feedback on your Practice Chair role. This will be used to update the Practice Chair job description, develop appropriate materials, and effectively educate the incoming Practice Chairs.



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