

Committee Reports

COMMITTEE REPORT

House of Representatives
Committee on Health and Welfare
August 21, 2002

Board of Physical Therapy Examiners C Prohibitions,
Practices and Definition of Physical Therapy
Supportive Personnel
(LAC 46:LIV.307.E and 305.A)

Pursuant to the authority of R.S. 49:968, the House Committee on Health and Welfare met on August 19, 2002, in House Committee Room No. 6 at 1:00 p.m. One of the purposes of the meeting was to exercise oversight of the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners' proposed rule to amend existing rules concerning licensure, continuing education, practice, supervision, documentation, substance abuse recovery program, and fees. The Notice of Intent to adopt such rules was published in the May 20, 2002 edition of the Louisiana Register.

The committee found a portion of the proposed rule to be severable, specifically, LAC 46:LIV.307.E, relative to prohibitions and practices within the practice of physical therapy, which proposed:

"E. A physical therapist shall perform an initial screening and assessment to determine if an individual qualifies for preventative services. The qualification for preventative services is that the individual, or client, has no acute medical/rehabilitative condition or exacerbation of a chronic condition requiring physical therapy treatment.

1. The initial screening shall be in writing and signed by the physical therapist with the basis for his determination that the individual, or client, qualifies for preventative services.

2. Preventative services shall not be billed as physical therapy treatment to third party payors, such as insurance carriers, nor to Medicare, since the provision of such services is not the administration of physical therapy treatment.

3. An individual may be a client (preventative services) and a patient (physical therapy treatment) at the same time as long as the provision of preventative services is not for the acute medical/rehabilitative condition or exacerbation of a chronic condition requiring physical therapy treatment."

The committee found the proposed LAC 46:LIV.307.E unacceptable by a vote of 10-4.

Additionally, at the committee hearing, the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners withdrew a proposed addition to the definition of "Physical Therapy Supportive Personnel" in 46:LIV.305.A. The proposed addition, as published in the May 20, 2002, Louisiana Register stated:

"D. *Spinal Manipulation, Spinal Mobilization, Peripheral Joint Manipulation, and Peripheral Joint Mobilization* C direct interventions which shall be performed exclusively by a physical therapy assistant and can not be delegated to a physical therapy assistant."

Rodney Alexander
Chairman

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