



**OHSIG Newsletter
October 2018
Respectfully Submitted by
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Nominations for the November election have been received. We have one nominee for each of the open seats, which are President and Nominating Committee member, and they each serve 3-year terms. We are pleased to have these candidates. Submissions were due September 14, 2018. Elections will be in November, and the APTA section office will send out notifications with Candidate Summaries when the polls open.

Outgoing President Tribute

Lorena Pettet Payne will be stepping down as President of the Occupational Health Special Interest Group and handing the reins over to the new elected President at CSM 2019. We would like to thank Lorena for her leadership over the past 6 years. Lori Deal DPT and Dee Daly DPT had the following words for Lorena:

Lorena's tireless efforts to advance understanding of what PT brings to Occupational Health have advanced the SIG and have opened doors to outside entities' interest in what PT has to offer. As recent examples, Lorena was instrumental in the Clinical Practice Guideline development project that will soon produce a published guideline for work rehabilitation. She spearheaded refreshing the documents our section hosts to educate others on occupational health and PT. Not only has that given other PT professionals a new resource, the content has already been utilized by the APTA's office in response to an inquiry from the National Occupational Research Agenda for Healthcare and Social Assistance. Lorena's efforts to advance our profession's involvement with the entities who have an effect on our practice continues. She helps ensure the SIG is part of evolving issues- monitoring and responding to emerging proposals, like proposed changes to Social Security determinations and the Occupational Requirements Survey (that will update the Dictionary of Occupational Titles). Within the last month, she met with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), which produces guidelines and provides oversight to U.S. employers for prevention of and response to injury and occupational illness/disease. She brought questions and concerns from OHSIG members to OSHA on a number of topics relevant to PTs and our work within employers' settings and with employees. During Lorena's tenure the SIG published a self study course, provided educational programming at CSM and coordinated efforts with the APTA employer initiative work group. Lorena's leadership in our SIG sets a high bar for our section's path and has advanced our involvement and exposure to external entities, as well as PTs interested in occupational health.

Recent activities:

OSHG members and APTA staff meet with OSHA



From left to right: Lorena Pettet Payne, Curt DeWeese, and APTA staff Wanda Evans, Kara Gainer, Justin Elliott (not pictured) met with key leadership at the United States Department of Labor on October 2, 2018 in Washington, DC. We discussed the role of physical therapists in the promotion of a healthy work force with OSHA Deputy Assistant Secretary Loren Sweatt, Director of Cooperative and State Programs Douglas Kalinowski, Director of Office of Outreach Services and Alliances Tina Jones, and two other key directors. During our meeting, similarities in our missions were identified. We reviewed the ways in which physical therapists are assisting industry. The framework for ongoing collaboration has been set. Immediately, members of the OHSIG can be instrumental in this collaboration by sharing the wealth of information available through OSHA. Tina Jones thanked APTA and OHSIG representatives for reaching out and for a productive meeting. A list of OSHA resources and information that OHSIG members will find beneficial when working with employers can be found on the OHSIG webpage:

<https://www.orthopt.org/content/special-interest-groups/occupational-health/osha-resources>

Webinar: Advanced Concepts in Functional Capacity Evaluations

On Thursday Sept 20th 11:00 CST Steve Allison, PT, DPT, OCS, an expert witness in the areas of functional capacity evaluation testing and CEO of Functional Capacity Experts, LLC and Disability Management Group, LLC presented a 90 minute presentation on Advanced Concepts in Functional Capacity Evaluations

This seminar was one of the highest attended SIG seminars recorded.

You can review the slides here:

https://www.orthopt.org/uploads/content_files/files/REVISED%202018%20APTA%20PP%20Presentation%20-%20Advanced%20Concepts%20in%20FCEs_POST.pdfWebinar

OHSIG offers comments for APTA response on National Occupational Research Agenda for Healthcare and Social Assistance

On behalf of OHSIG, comments were submitted related to National Occupational Research Agenda. It has been the major OHSIG objective to share resources and to serve as a resource for stakeholders. The Current Concepts on Work Related Injury Illness Prevention and Ergonomics was cited in this document.

Current Concepts Sub-committee updates

- **Functional Capacity Evaluation:** updated and released.
- **Management of the Acutely Injured Worker:** Under revision by group
- **Work-related Injury and Illness Prevention and Ergonomics:** updated and released.
- **Legal and Risk Management:** currently seeking work group members (If you are interested in participating in this group please contact Lorena Pettet Payne (lpettet@aol.com)
- **The Physical Therapist in Occupational Health:** Under revision by group
- **Advanced Work Rehabilitation:** Final updated and awaiting release. Submitted to JOSPT with an anticipated publish date of February 2019.

Mentoring program

At CSM 2018 our members requested opportunities to mentor with more experienced physical therapists in the area of occupational health. A structured mentoring program is planned for launch at CSM 2019 OHSIG meeting at 6:45 am on Saturday, January 26th immediately preceding the OHSIG sponsored educational session. Information related to the mentor/mentee program can be found on the OHSIG webpage. This mentoring program has a defined time length of 6

months with a suggestion of at least 1 interaction per month via phone/web camera/in person. Because occupational health covers a wide range of topics the program is further divided into 4 general specialty areas:

- a. Prevention: ergonomics, wellness programs, post offer testing
- b. WC regulatory environment: insurance, state laws
- c. Treatment: traditional therapy under Worker's Compensation, specialty industrial programs (FCEs, work conditioning/work hardening)
- d. On-site prevention and treatment programming

Click here to view the criteria:

https://www.orthopt.org/uploads/content_files/files/OHSIG%20mentoring%20program%20criteria.pdf

Recent events:

Thursday October 25th at 11:00 CST Advanced Concepts in Job Analysis: Physical Demands Validation

A Free webinar was held for OHSIG members presented by Dr Steve Allison. Dr Steve Allison has over 20 years of experience in the specialty practice of functional capacity testing and job analysis consulting. He is recognized as an expert witness in the areas of functional capacity evaluation testing and orthopedic physical therapy in Federal, District, and workers' compensation courts in Louisiana. Dr. Allison is the CEO of Functional Capacity Experts, LLC and Disability Management Group, LLC.

A recording of this webinar will be posted to the OHSIG's website as soon as it is available.

CSM 2019

OHSIG Membership Meeting: For members and anyone interested, we will be introducing new leadership, update on the work rehab clinical practice guideline, update the latest in "Current Concepts in Occupational Health Physical Therapy" and more at the OHSIG membership meeting at 6:45 am on Saturday, January 26 immediately preceding the OHSIG sponsored educational session.

Thinking Outside the Box: Improving Worker Health With Ergonomics

https://apta.expoplanner.com/index.cfm?do=expomap.sess&event_id=29&session_id=15250

Date: Saturday, January 26, 2019

Time: 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center

Room: 146A

Speakers: Frances Kistner, PT, PhD; Katie McBee, PT, DPT, Board-Certified Orthopaedic Clinical Specialist; Chris Studebaker, PT, DPT, Board-Certified Orthopaedic Clinical Specialist

Description:

Ergonomic and psychosocial risk factors both play a role in musculoskeletal injury risk. Ergonomic coaching has the potential to not only mitigate the ergonomic risk factors but also improve self-efficacy, decrease fear avoidance, and reduce the incidence of disability by returning patients back to function sooner. In addition to the traditional outpatient setting, physical therapists can provide services in the workplace, such as designing workplace exercise programs, ergonomic job analyses, body mechanics training, and job rotation planning. This session will review basic ergonomic principles and risk factors, and review the evidence supporting their application to Orthopaedics Section practice. The presenters will discuss the physical therapist's role in the workplace setting, including ergonomic methods and tools as well as overall health promotion. Practical application models will be demonstrated and discussed for different time periods along the care continuum. A case study will further illustrate the application of these concepts.

Facebook Conversations: Join the conversation

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AWARDS \$1.9 MILLION TO IMPROVE APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES

<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20181011>

Two articles of interest regarding payment for non-pharmacologic treatments for Low Back Pain among US Public and Private Insurers were published in the Journal of the AMA.

- https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2705853?utm_campaign=articlePDF&utm_medium=articlePDFlink&utm_source=articlePDF&utm_content=jamanetworkopen.2018.3037
- <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2705845>

Should the APTA-Backed Bill Protecting PTs Traveling with Sports Teams Likely to Become Law also include coverage for PTs working with work crews across state lines?

<http://www.apta.org/PTinMotion/News/2018/10/04/SportsClarityActOctober2018/>

Ergonomics in Healthcare Promoting Safe Patient Handling is a free self-paced online program consisting of 6 short modules. Viewers will learn to identify and eliminate or reduce hazards associated with patient handling and other tasks, using ergonomic principles, work practice, and administrative controls.

<https://www.uml.edu/Research/CPH-NEW/nurse-education/ergonomics/>

JOSPT Hand-Grip Strength: Normative Reference Values and Equations for Individuals 18 to 85 Years of Age Residing in the United States

<https://www.jospt.org/doi/abs/10.2519/jospt.2018.7851>

Information on the National Occupational Injury Research Symposium (NOIRS) 2018

<http://www.cvent.com/events/national-occupational-injury-research-symposium-noirs-2018/event-summary-accb8587c44947f38e3e5f34ee31caa0.aspx?lang=en&sms=7&cn=x-5bXOFiykSqFgkSck60og>