



OHSIG Q2 Newsletter 2024

Education Committee: Occupational Health Practitioner Certificate

- **OHP Survey planned!** Alison Helmetsie and Chris Petrosino are leading a short survey that was piloted at CSM. This brief survey is expected to be sent as a request to AOPT members.
- **Occupational Health Practitioner (OHP) Certificate Capstone Presentation Dates:** A peer-reviewed capstone presentation is the final step for OHP Certificate candidates who enroll in AOPT Course 32.W3 - [Facilitating Therapy Services for Total Worker Health®](#). Each 30-minute presentation is a lunch & learn format about evidence-based practice in one area of occupational health focus. Candidates engage with an OHP mentor to develop a professional presentation of interest to employers or other stakeholders. All OHSIG members are invited to attend or view these webinars. You may RSVP in advance to request a zoom invitation by emailing orthoisc@orthpt.org. The next capstone online seminar events are scheduled for:
 - Thursday, May 9, 2024, from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm
- **AOPT YouTube Presentations in 2024:** OHSIG members have shared their recorded OHP Capstone Presentations on the AOPT YouTube Channel. **Check out our 1st one for 2024:**
 - [Applying Functional Capacity Evaluations to Facilitate Return to Work](#) (Chris Scoma)

Combined Sections Meeting 2024: Occupational Health Program Events Were a Big Success!

- OHSIG President Rick Wickstrom presented, [Reliability and Concurrent Validity of the Active Movement Scale \(AMS\) in Patients with Musculoskeletal Disorders](#).
- [Occupational Health SIG Membership Meeting](#)
- Katia M. Costa-Black, PT, Robert Cory Blickenstaff, PT, MS, Michael Kean, and Stewart Levy presented, [Innovative Workplace Strategies to Promote Musculoskeletal Health and Well-Being Using the Total Worker Health Approach](#).
- OHSIG Member Ryan Mizner presented, [Knee Extensor Underloading during Squatting Adds to Clinical Predictions of Quadriceps Strength after ACL Reconstruction](#).

There were also presentations on Primary Care PT models, PTs as First Contact care providers, Marketing Occupational Health/D2E services, and Care Pathway Implementation for PTs as Early Contact as Pain Care Providers.

Nominating Committee: Volunteers Needed

- **Fall Elections Uncertain:** This year, OHSIG was scheduled to elect a new President and a Nominating Committee Member. At CSM, President Rick Wickstrom and other SIG leaders met with the entire AOPT Board to discuss a proposal that all Special Interest Groups transition to the simpler structure of an Engagement Communities. Under this proposal, a Chair and Vice Chair would be appointed rather than elected by OHSIG membership. This proposal is now on hold pending further discussion with SIG Leaders after they issued a letter to communicate concerns about this proposal.
- Nominating Committee Members are responsible for engaging members to be slated as candidates for OHSIG elected offices or serve on a standing committee. They contribute to strategic planning at CSM or virtually to advance the mission and vision. Please reach out to any nominating committee member to express your volunteer interests:
<https://www.orthopt.org/content/special-interest-groups/occupational-health/ohsig-leadership>

AOPT Annual Membership Meeting on March 5, 2024: SIG Leaders weigh in!

- **Occupational Health SIG President Rick Wickstrom presented a motion on behalf of SIG leaders to more directly align Special Interest Groups and Engagement Communities with the work of the Practice committee.** This was approved during the AOPT Business Meeting Open Forum. The motion language approved by members in attendance is that: The AOPT Board will investigate and consider appointing a leader from each SIG or EC to serve as a standing member of the Practice Committee as a new reporting structure to improve efficiencies and engagement of SIGs and ECs in initiatives to promote practice opportunities and excellence for members who belong to these communities. This motion was initiated to address concerns by SIG leaders that the current AOPT reporting structure established for SIGs is dysfunctional because SIG leaders are siloed from one another and not directly connected with the Practice Committee. This discourages networking between SIG leaders that have similar roles and responsibilities to increase access and payment in a more favorable practice environment.
- **Performing Arts SIG President Laurel Daniels presented a motion on behalf of SIG leaders to increase student membership in the AOPT.** This was approved during the AOPT Business Meeting Open Forum. The motion language approved by members in attendance is that: The AOPT Board will investigate and consider the option of providing free membership to AOPT student members in order to increase student membership and stimulate interest in orthopaedic physical therapy practice at the start of their careers.

Practice Committee: State Resource Liaison Initiative!

- **North Carolina Board of Physical Therapy:** Issued a clarifying letter to the Federal Motor Carriers Safety Association that US Department of Transportation Physical Examinations of

Commercial Drivers are within the scope of physical therapy practice for all licensed physical therapists in North Carolina. North Carolina is now among six other states that have issued similar letters: Ohio, Kentucky, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, and North Dakota. OHSIG leaders Steve Allison and Rick Wickstrom have been mentoring OHSIG members in other states that wish to qualify to take the mandatory education and national board examination to qualify as a Certified Medical Examiner.

Research Committee: Stimulating Faculty/Student Research!

- **Key Contact for DPT Programs:** In 2024 the OHSIG will endeavor to include all DPT students in OHSIG news and education, by building a key contact list for each DPT Program.

Public Relations Committee: Member Spotlights!

- **It's Published! APTA Magazine Feature March 2024: "Going Straight To The Source: Direct to Employer Services"** <https://www.apta.org/apta-magazine/2024/03/01/going-straight-to-source-direct-to-employer-services>. This article is a must read, and features the best of our OHSIG, OHP graduates and Private Practice partners: Josh Bailey, Christine McCallum, Lorena Pettet Payne, Christopher Petrosino, Eric Schultz and Rick Wickstrom, Rob Worth
- **PR Committee Vice Chair appointed!** We are pleased to welcome Jacob Gredvig a Vice Chair of the PR committee team. He has a wealth of information and has already provided a "lunch and learn" template for OHSIG members to utilize when marketing a client.
- **PR Committee Initiatives:** Our PR Committee has been generating posts to our OHSIG Facebook page and has begun to work on social media announcements to promote the external search registry for OHSIG members who qualify for the [OHP Certificate](#). This expanded member profile is how potential clients and collaborators will find you! You may access the external search and update your expanded OHSIG Member Profile at <https://www.orthopt.org/content/special-interest-groups/occupational-health>.
- **Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Practice (OPTP):** The [latest edition of OPTP](#) has a Member Spotlight feature interview of Lisa Krefft, MSL, OTR/L who qualified in the first cohort to be recognized with an Occupational Health Practitioner Certificate. Lisa is a contributing member of our OHSIG Public Relations Committee and now has a non-traditional role as an Occupational Health Consultant in technology solutions such as AI Computer Vision Kinematics to assess for musculoskeletal risk factors.

Members Only! Our OHSIG Facebook Closed Group

- Don't miss out on the conversations available only to active OHSIG members! [Join the conversation link](#) and share recent articles, recommendations, and thoughts!

Thank you for being a member of the Occupational Health Special Interest Group!