



**Michigan Physical Therapy
Association**

MPTA Board of Directors

Report to the Membership, October 17, 2015

At the January 10, 2015 meeting the MPTA Board of Directors decided to reformat the report to the membership to mirror the MPTA Strategic Plan which was endorsed by the MPTA membership at the 2014 MPTA Fall Conference. Positive feedback from members about the new format has encouraged us to continue for the Fall 2015 MPTA BOD Report.

The Strategic Plan of the MPTA is informed by the past experience of the association and the current environment in which physical therapy is situated in Michigan as well as nationally. The Strategic Plan prepares the MPTA to move forward by preparing to meet both challenges and opportunities over the next 5 years, and beyond, within a well-reasoned contextual framework. The goals and objectives of the MPTA Strategic Plan informs decision making to move forward in fulfilling the MPTA Vision and Mission while remaining true to the core values of the APTA, maximizing strengths of the association, and addressing its weaknesses to provide value to members and to society.

The goals and objectives of the MPTA Strategic Plan are not an exhaustive list of Association activities. The goals and objective reflect the priorities of the MPTA and are reflected in the activities of the association and the strategic allocation of resources (time, financial, effort).

Mission

The Michigan Physical Therapy Association is a professional organization representing physical therapists, physical therapist assistants and students who have joined together to assure that high ethical professional standards are maintained and that quality health care in the areas of prevention, education and rehabilitation of movement dysfunction and wellness are received for all consumers in the State of Michigan.

Vision

Transforming society by optimizing movement to improve the human experience

Guiding Principles:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Identity | Innovation |
| Quality | Consumer-centricity |
| Collaboration | Access/Equity |
| Value | Advocacy |

APTA Core Values:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Accountability | Professional Duty |
| Altruism | Excellence |
| Compassion and Caring | Social Responsibility |
| Integrity | |

MPTA Strategic Goals and Objectives

Continuing Competence (Values/Principles: Excellence, Accountability, and Quality)

Goal 1: MPTA will facilitate successful implementation of continuing professional development requirements for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in Michigan

Objectives

1.1 Educate members on procedural requirements as defined in the Michigan Physical Therapy Administrative Rules

- The proposed Physical Therapy General Rules which include re-licensure and Professional Development Requirements have been finalized! **The new rules for re-licensure begin with the renewal cycle that begins July 1, 2017, with the first group impacted with licensure renewals in July, 2019.** A quick reference sheet for MPTA members is available at the MPTA membership desk and at the Professional Development roundtables.
- Multiple sessions have been conducted across the state in varying venues to educate members about the new continuing competency requirements. Information is posted on the MPTA website. Updated information will also be posted on the MPTA web site.
- The Eastern District held a webinar in Mid-June to address the PDRs with good attendance (70+). Information has been shared via social media and in Member meetings (9/19).

1.2 Provide varied and comprehensive opportunities (format, content/specialty areas) for continuing professional development

- The Eastern District held a webinar in Mid-June, co-sponsored a course in September. An education session/meeting is planned for 10/28/15 at Oakland University, a full day course on 11/14/15 at Macomb Community College and two other educational events in early 2016.
- On Saturday, September 19th the **Northern District hosted its first live continuing education event and membership meeting in Traverse City.** Dr. Jeff Moore of Iron Mountain, MI presented on "Manual Therapy Management for the Lumbar Spine". Attendance was great! The course was completely full and attracted attendees from across the District and students from CMU, GVSU and UM Flint. Over lunch, Northern District leaders Tim Zipple and Chris Hinze gave updates to attendees on CPD requirements, legislative issues and sought feedback for upcoming District events. Due to the excellent response to this course, we have already booked Dr. Moore to return to the District to present a 2-day cervical spine management course. This course will be held the weekend of 9/17/2016. Zipple and Hinze are continuing to plan additional district events based on feedback from District members. Saturday morning District meetings and a 1-Day introduction to Dry Needling continuing education course are two options the District leaders are considering to attract current and new members to District events.

- The **UP District** held its annual UP Golf Social on August 19th at Timberstone Golf in Iron Mountain. This year, 11 golfers challenged one of the premier courses in the UP. Overall, there was an excellent display of golf with highlights including a towering drive by long champion Joe Lewis on hole #3, an excellent placement close to the pin by Kip Hartman hole #, and numerous lost balls by Lane Lindeman. Your chair, Edward Mathis, also provided comic relief by taking some of the largest divots in UPGS history. Mathis claimed this year's "Crimson Jacket" as the 2015 UPGS Champion with an amazing (i.e. lucky) one hundred yard putt to claim the MVP honors. Afterwards, the golfers and other UP District members met for pizza and a discussion on current state and national issues while raising \$825 for MPT-PAC. Please check out and like our Facebook page to see pictures from the event. Thanks to everyone that attended the event and we look forward to bringing the UPGS to an all-new location in 2016.

1.3 Provide an excellent, efficient and cost effective CEU/PDU approval process leading to recognition of the MPTA as the preferred organization for approving professional development programming

- The MPTA has been approved as a provider of continuing education in the newly revised Physical Therapy General Rules
- The MPTA CEU application is under revision and has been a priority this year.
- At the time of this report, proposed changes to the procedure have been submitted to the BOD which includes options to become a CEU agency or apply for CEU's by the course, as well as a revised, streamlined system. The goal is to have the CEU application process available on line by January 1, 2016 with a 14 day CEU response to the applicant.
- Please join us at the roundtable for Membership and Professional Development and bring your questions, concerns, and issues so I can be sure and address additional priorities of our awesome membership! Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted by Holly Lookabaugh-Deur, PT, DSc, GCS; MPTA Director for Membership and Professional Development; Jennifer Blackwood, PT, PhD, GCS, MPTA Eastern District Chair, Tim Zipple, PT, DSc, OCS, MPTA Northern District Chair, Edward Mathis, PT, DPT, MPTA UP District Chair

Reimbursement (Values/Principles: Access/Equity, Value, Advocacy, Excellence)

Goal 2: MPTA will ensure that third party payer policies are consistent with current professional standards of practice and Michigan state law

Objectives

2.1 Advocate for reimbursement from all third party payers for physical therapy services provided without physician prescription

- **Priority Health** is paying for direct access physical therapy services.

- **Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM)** does not have plans to pay for these visits. We have provided them with requested research showing cost benefits of direct access and will continue the discussion

2.2 Advocate maintaining the same reimbursement rate for services provided by physical therapists and physical therapist assistants

- This has not been an issue in Michigan yet, as it has been elsewhere in the country. MPTA will continue to remain vigilant

2.3 Advocate for third party payer policies/benefits that allow for sustainable, equitable payment for services and that allow for quality, effective care to patients

- **BCBSM** in their August edition of *The Record* had an article entitled “Additional Procedure Codes Payable to Chiropractors for Physical Therapy Services.” This appeared a week before the Reimbursement Committee’s scheduled meeting with BCBSM, and this became the main topic of the meeting. We explained to BCBSM how the 97000 series of CPT codes are not physical therapy codes, and how many professions can use them. We explained how the article is inaccurate because based on the public health code, only Physical Therapists can perform physical therapy services. We gave suggestions for alternate wording that is more accurate and less confusing. On October 11, 2015, BCBSM announced it will be publishing a correction to this in the December “*The Record*” as the November deadline has already passed. The correction will say the following:

“The Michigan Public Health Code allows only certain providers to use the term “Physical Therapy” (or other similar terms) when referencing the services she or he is licensed to perform. In recognition of this, BCBSM/BCN will use the term “Physical Medicine Services” when outpatient rehabilitative services are performed by providers other than Physical Therapists. All procedure codes that are related to physical therapy services or physical medicine services will roll up to the physical therapy benefit maximums regardless of who performs the service.”

Thank you all for your concern on this topic. While not a perfect fix, BCBSM has corrected many of the initial problems from their August article. The MPTA Reimbursement committee will be meeting with BCBSM October 23 to talk about this and other matters.

- **Medicare updates**
 - Cap remains at \$1,940 for 2015
 - Exceptions process remains in place until 12/31/17
 - Medical Manual Review process at \$3,700 has changed to a system that targets providers with aberrant billing patterns, higher percentage of denials, and new providers.
 - Re-Evaluation of CPT code expenses
 - The AMA Specialty Society Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC) gives advice to CMS on provider work and practice expenses.
 - The most common Physical Therapy CPT codes are being re-evaluated. I suppose it’s possible that they may increase what they pay us, but it’s much more common that it is determined that CPT codes are overvalued, and providers are paid less.

- RUC is sending out surveys with very detailed questions about how much it costs to run a physical therapy practice. If you get one of these surveys, do not ignore it! Call APTA for help with how to fill out the survey.
- APTA continues to work to develop Physical Therapy Classification and Payment System

Respectfully submitted, Martin J. Sytsema, OMPT, FAAOMPT, CIMT; MPTA Director for Reimbursement

Legislative Advocacy(Values/Principles: Access/Equity, Consumer-centricity, Collaboration)

Goal 3: MPTA will ensure statutory and regulatory language that reflect current scope and standards or practice for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants

Objectives

3.1 Engage policymakers and regulators on scope of practice issues that threaten access to physical therapy services and that inhibit effective collaboration with other providers on the health care team

- **SAY NO TO HB4712!** Legislation was passed out of the House Health Policy committee (HPC) on 10/06/15, just receiving the 11 necessary votes to move to the full House. This legislation did have 2 amendments added, but essentially HB4712 would add Chiropractors to the list of eligible individuals in Michigan that could “prescribe” physical therapy. MPTA is opposed to this legislation and has taken numerous steps since the introduction of the bill to express this opposition. The bill can be before the full House any time after passed out of the HPC. MPTA has engaged a number of other groups so that there is a coalition of organizations that are opposed to HB4712. MPTA will need all members to engage their representative in order to express why they should vote no on HB4712. MPTA is appreciative of the grass roots advocacy that engaged HPC members, and recognizes that member efforts helped to keep the vote close as well as helped to gain the involvement of other groups. **The time to take action is now! All members must contact their representative to tell them to vote NO on HB4712, without this action, the bill could move to the Senate.**
 - **Actions you can take now:**
 1. **Contact your Representative (if it moves to the Senate then we will inform the membership)**
 2. Support the MPTPAC
 3. Visit the MPTA Legislative page for updates
 4. Maintain consistent messaging within the HPC districts
 5. Visit the APTA Advocacy page (State Advocacy) for state issues identified by APTA
- **Fair co-pay:** MPTA BOD has been investigating the feasibility of Fair Co-pay action/legislation. MPTA BOD recognizes this as one of APTA ongoing areas of focus for legislative priorities across the country. Currently, there are 8 states with fair co-pay laws: Arkansas, Connecticut, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, and South Dakota. MPTA has engaged members from a broader coalition of health care providers which included chiropractors, and utilized the Legislative Advocacy Day in Lansing to gain

feedback from Legislators. Considering recent legislative developments as well as the feedback gained from numerous legislative contacts, the time is simply not right for moving fair co-pay legislation. This area will continue to be monitored since MPTA has laid critical groundwork for future action.

- **Odds & Ends:** MPTA continues to monitor updates related to other important legislative activity related to auto no-fault reform, licensure legislation of other health care professions, and actions by individuals or payers that have impact on physical therapy in Michigan.
- Members from across the state attended the Legislative Breakfast and APTA's Capital Hill Day.

3.2 Develop and maintain an effective grassroots function for state legislative issues and that assists the APTA in federal legislative issues

- MPTA BOD and individual members have engaged numerous House and Senate members since the beginning of this legislative session, which is 2015-16. Attendance at fundraisers and various legislator events has allowed us to have face-time time in front of legislators and/or their policy aides to keep them up to date on legislative developments such as HB4712.
- MPTA lobbying firm of Muchmore, Harrington, Smalley and Associates (MHSA) continues to keep MPTA BOD updated on legislative progress and discussions. The ongoing relationship with MHSA continues to provide MPTA with many benefits in helping to gauge policy maker stance/position on issues, allowing MPTA to effectively target efforts at education, legislative responses, etc.
- Legislative Advocacy Day in Lansing was successful at connecting many MPTA members with their legislator and/or legislator's staff. Additionally, MPTA BOD members were able to meet with key state policy makers and regulators at the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) as well as the Attorney General's (AG) office.
 - **Actions you can take now:**
 - Support the MPTPAC
 - Continue to support MPTA events such as Legislative Advocacy Day; look for updates for the 2016 date
 - Inform MPTA/Legislative Director of any meetings with legislators
- APTA State Advocacy Forum was attended by MPTA BOD members Marty Sytsema (Director – Reimbursement) and Craig Miller (Director – Legislative Affairs) in September. APTA and various state components were able to present and discuss on various issues occurring on the state level across the country. Attendees were able to share stories of success and failure in a variety of areas including but not limited to: patient cost-sharing/co-pay, interstate licensure compact for PT, dry needling, workers compensation and physical therapy payment, and various court actions/filings that impact the practice of physical therapy across the country. MPTA continues to monitor these various issues, among others, and how other component states experiences can help shape MPTA actions.
- PT Day on Capitol Hill was attended by MPTA FAL, Matt Likins, and over 20 other representatives from Michigan. The annual event in Washington, D.C. was attended by over 1,000 members from across the country. MPTA members learned about the APTA priority issues on a Federal level, and had successful discussions with both Michigan Senators.

These discussions resulted in both Senators Peters and Stabenow signing on to co-sponsor the Prevent Interruptions in Therapy Physical Therapy Act (S313)!

- **Actions you can take now:**
 - Support the PTPAC
 - Download the APTA Action app
 - Visit the APTA Advocacy page (Federal Advocacy) for updates
- APTA announced 2015-16 legislative priorities. Visit www.APTA.advocacy/org for detailed information on both Federal and State priorities.
- DATA, DATA, and more DATA...APTA and components, such as MPTA continue to follow developments, and help to shape the discussion in areas such as PQRS, IMPACT Act of 2014, and the development of outcomes registries...ALL of this demonstrates the ongoing goal of health care reform to improve access, cost, and outcomes!
- **Summary of ACTION NEEDED:**
 - **If you have examples of patients or business issues impacted by high co-pay costs for consumers, please contact MPTA (remember to keep patient information protected)**
 - **Plan to attend MPTA Legislative Day in Lansing on May 6, 2015**
 - **Download the APTA Action App AND the APTA News App**
 - **Donate to the PAC to help ensure ongoing advocacy for the PT profession**
 - **Encourage membership in your association...be an ambassador for PT**

Respectfully Submitted by Craig Miller PT, MPTA Director for Legislative Issues; Jennifer Blackwood, PT, PhD, GCS, MPTA Eastern District Chair

Physical Therapy Identity (Values/Principles: Identity, Value, Consumer-centricity, Excellence)

Goal 4: MPTA will promote recognition of the breadth and depth of physical therapy services and as experts in the management of movement dysfunction.

Objectives

4.1 Develop mechanisms for utilizing communications outlets (e.g. website, social media) to complement APTA consumer education efforts

- If you have not been on www.mpta.com lately, what are you waiting for? The new web site is awesome! Very user-friendly and up-to-date. Be sure to check it out. As long as you are surfing the web, be sure to follow the Michigan Physical Therapy Association on Facebook as well as the MPTA Student Relations Committee. Do you participate in the world of Twitter? Follow the MPTA tweets @MIPhysTherAssoc and the Student Relation Committee @MPTA_SRC. All social media links and the latest posts can be found on the home page of mpta.com.
- The MPTA contracts with CauceusWebs to manage the website. Volunteer leaders help manage the social media sites.
- Eastern District leadership brought forth an item for discussion for the MPTA BOD regarding communication via social media. As a result, a policy was created to address

communication via social media. The Eastern District has also started to provide monthly communication for all members to update them with district activities.

- The MPTA Facebook page currently has 1,418 likes (+166 since the spring membership meeting) and our reach continues to grow.
 - There are also Facebook pages for the Student Relations Committee, Eastern District, Northern District, UP District, and the Western District. Like them ALL!!!
- Twitter: MPTA @MIPhysTherAssoc and the MPTA Student Relations Committee. @MPTA_SRC.
- Check all the FaceBook pages and twitter feeds for the latest!
- Happy National Physical Therapy month!!! Are you doing anything to celebrate? MPTA Public Relations would love to hear about the exciting events hospital and clinics have planned to celebrate. Please share on Facebook or Twitter or email to smppt96@comcast.net. Who knows, these celebrations could be highlighted in the next issue of Shorelines.
- Do you want to become more involved in the MPTA but have little time to dedicate? **Consider joining the MPTA Public Relations Committee.** Conference calls will be held a minimum of quarterly or more often if needed. Please contact Suzanne Perkins via email at smppt96@omcast.net for more details.

*Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Perkins PT,
MPTA Director of Marketing and Public Relations*

Member Engagement (Values/Principles: Professional Duty, Identity, Quality)

Goal 5: Enhance the quality and value of Association membership to increase membership size and member engagement.

Objectives

6.1 Design, administer and analyze a comprehensive needs assessment of member and nonmember and develop appropriate action plan for increasing membership to include completion of re-districting.

- I have requested a new Director's position be created specifically to focus on membership. Without membership, the MPTA doesn't exist! Membership offers such important services for us as physical therapists and physical therapist assistants; it needs more direct attention.
- **Looking for a new Membership Committee chair!** We were so fortunate to have Michelle Morrow from the northern district step forward and form an active committee that addressed new graduates, members who dropped off the radar and other important tasks. Michelle has now stepped down from this role – thank you for all of your efforts!- and we need new committee leadership to continue to move forward. Special thanks to **Lauren Ramer, Liz Ramey, Elizabeth Sheahan, Amber Lenhart, and Ed Mathis** for your help with membership.

*Respectfully submitted by Holly Lookabaugh-Deur, PT,DSc, GCS, MPTA Director for
Membership and Professional Development*

6.2 Implement a communication plan that realizes the potential of social media and electronic resources to provide timely, effective, and individualized member communication and interaction.

- Developing a strong communication plan is a major priority for the next 6 months. Many improvements to the MPTA infrastructure have occurred during 2015 laying the foundation for a strategic revision of improved transparency and communication with the membership, with the public and with key stakeholders

Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Perkins, PT MPTA Director of Marketing and Public Relations; Susan Ann Talley, MPTA President

6.3 Implement student career starter dues program to increase student member retention after graduation.

- MPTA continues to participate in the APTA Career Starter Dues Program for the third year. New graduates receive a 50% discount the first year, 40 % the second year, 30% the third year, 20% the fourth year and 10% the fifth year after graduation. The program is for both PTs and PTAs.

6.4 Increase student membership and engagement in Association leadership activities with student representation for active participate on each committee.

- **Nikki Chakur** continues as the MPTA liaison to the MPTA Student Relations Committee (SRC); Nikki was a student leader of the SRC and has returned to help lead the group into the future.
- The SRC strives to promote student PT/PTA involvement in the APTA/MPTA organization. They coordinate with Districts and other MPTA committees to promote student membership. The SRC also educates and raises public awareness of physical therapy.
 - **Crystal Lamb** is the APTA Core Ambassador for the state of Michigan for the second year. Thank you!!!
- MPTA committees and task forces.
- **Rachel Atanosian** continues to facilitate the semi-annual meeting of the PT Academic Administrators Advisory Committee.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Ann Talley, MPTA President

District Reports –Engaging the Membership (embedded in the strategic goals)

- Eastern District
 - Leadership: Jennifer Blackwood, Chair, Katie Palazzolo, Vice Chair, Directors: Mike Kinyon, Gabriella Stauss, Eduardo Enriquez
- Northern District
 - Leadership: **Tim Zipple**, Chair; **Chris Hinze**, Vice-Chair; Core group volunteers: **Amy Yorke, Chris Hausbeck, Niki Diehl, Karen Grossnickle, Trisha Armstrong, Ann Dull**
- Upper Peninsula District
 - Leadership: **Edward Mathis**, Chair; multiple regional liaisons to help communicate with the district.

- Western District
 - Leadership: **Kaelee Brockway**, Chair; **Meri Goehring**, Vice-Chair; **Lindsay Tyler**, Treasurer; **Susan Roemer**, Secretary

APTA House of Delegates

The 2015 House of Delegates meeting in National Harbor, Maryland was a productive and successful meeting. MPTA contributed significantly as two MI motions were presented. One was passed and the other's language was incorporated into another encompassing motion as described below. As well, the APTA elected Sharon L. Dunn, PT, PhD, OCS as President of the association and MPTA members and officers participated in the "March on Washington" to educate legislators on issues germane to physical therapy.

Selection of Motions that were passed by the HOD:

- **RC 3-15 AMEND: BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION TO GRANT COMPONENTS THE OPTION OF AMENDING THEIR BYLAWS TO PROVIDE A FULL VOTE FOR PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT MEMBERS**
- **RC 8-15 DELIVERY OF VALUE-BASED PHYSICAL THERAPIST SERVICES**
 - **This motion incorporated MI motion language for MEDICALLY NECESSARY PHYSICAL THERAPIST SERVICES**
- **RC 12-15 ADOPT: THE ROLE OF THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST IN DIET AND NUTRITION: MI motion**
- **RC 23-15 ADOPT: DESIGNATION OF INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AS A MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED POPULATION**

To see the entire summary of the 2015 House of Delegates motions, find the Post House Packet 2015 on the HOD community page under the House Resources tab. As well, full motion language is available in the House of Delegates minutes:

<http://communities.apta.org/p/do/sd/sid=1315&type=0>

Open National Office positions for 2016:

- Secretary
- Vice Speaker
- Director (3 to be elected)
- Nominating Committee (2 to be elected)

The following candidates for national office have been nominated by the MPTA:

- Nominating Committee: Laurie Kontney, PT, DPT, MS, CEEAA, WI
- Director: Cathy Ciolek, PT, DPT, GCS, CEEAA DE

Nominations must be submitted by 11/2/2015

- Members can make individual nominations

Respectfully Submitted by Cam Williams DPT, PT, MS, MPTA Chief Delegate