

CR 92-6

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF WISCONSIN

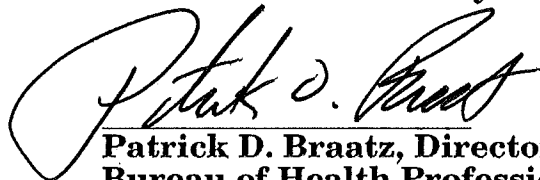
DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND LICENSING

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

I, Patrick D. Braatz, Director, Bureau of Health Professions in the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing and custodian of the official records of the Medical Examining Board, do hereby certify that the annexed rules were duly approved and adopted by the Medical Examining Board on the 21st day of May, 1992.

I further certify that said copy has been compared by me with the original on file in this office and that the same is a true copy thereof, and of the whole of such original.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the board at 1400 East Washington Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin this 21st day of May, 1992.



**Patrick D. Braatz, Director
Bureau of Health Professions
Department of Regulation and
Licensing**

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MAY 26 1992
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STATE OF WISCONSIN
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF RULE-MAKING	:	ORDER OF THE
PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE	:	MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD	:	ADOPTING RULES
	:	(CLEARINGHOUSE RULE 92-6)

ORDER

An order of the Medical Examining Board to create Med 7.10 of the administrative code relating to physical therapist assistants practicing physical therapy under the general supervision of a physical therapist.

Analysis provided by the Department of Regulation and Licensing.

ANALYSIS

Statutes authorizing promulgation: ss. 15.08 (5) (b), 227.11 (2) and 448.03 (2) (fm), Stats.

Statutes interpreted: s. 448.03 (2) (fm), Stats.

1991 Wisconsin Act 23, published on June 14, 1991, created s. 448.03 (2) (fm), Stats., establishing that a physical therapist assistant may assist a physical therapist in practice under general supervision of the physical therapist. In this rule-making order, the Medical Examining Board responds to the legislative mandate that, upon the advice of the Physical Therapists Examining Council, the board promulgate rules defining "general supervision" for the purposes of s. 448.03 (2) (fm), Stats. The proposed rule establishes 10 criteria for general supervision of a physical therapist assistant which are consistent both with appropriate supervisory oversight and with preserving responsibility of the physical therapist for physical therapy services provided.

Section Med 7.10 is created with subsections as follows. Subsection (1) confirms that the physical therapist shall have primary responsibility for services rendered under his or her supervision.

Subsection (2) requires that the physical therapist have direct face-to-face contact with the assistant at least every 14 calendar days. In a hospital setting, this would usually require such contact every calendar week. In other settings, the actual frequency of direct contact would depend on the assistant's practice schedule.

Subsection (3) requires that in addition to required direct contact, the physical therapist must always be accessible through telecommunications.

Subsection (4) limits the number of physical therapist assistants a physical therapist may supervise to two full-time assistants or the equivalent of two full-time assistants.

Subsection (5) further defines supervisory requirements by mandating that the policy and procedure governing communications between the physical therapist and assistant, as well as the description of the supervisory activities to be undertaken, must be established in writing.

Subsections (6) and (7) establish that both the initial evaluation and interpretation of new patients, and the patient treatment plan and program, must be personally undertaken by the physical therapist.

Subsection (8) permits the physical therapist to delegate to the assistant those portions of the treatment plan and program consistent with the assistant's education, training and experience.

Subsection (9) requires that the physical therapist provide onsite assessment and reevaluation of each patient's treatment every ten treatment days or each calendar month, whichever is sooner, and to adjust the treatment plan if appropriate.

Subsection (10) requires that the physical therapist actively participate in discharge plan decisions and final assessments.

TEXT OF RULE

SECTION 1. Med 7.10 is created to read:

Med 7.10 PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS. A physical therapist assistant, as defined in s. 448.03 (2) (fm), Stats., may practice physical therapy under the general supervision of a physical therapist. In providing general supervision, the physical therapist shall do all of the following:

- (1) Have primary responsibility for physical therapy care rendered by the physical therapist assistant.
- (2) Have direct face-to-face contact with the physical therapist assistant at least every 14 calendar days.
- (3) Remain accessible to telecommunications in the interim between direct contacts while the physical therapist assistant is providing patient care.
- (4) Supervise no more than 2 physical therapist assistant full-time equivalents at a time.
- (5) Establish a written policy and procedure for written and oral communication. This policy and procedure shall include a specific description of the supervisory activities undertaken for the physical therapist assistant.
- (6) Provide initial patient evaluation and interpretation of referrals.
- (7) Develop the patient treatment plan and program.
- (8) Delegate appropriate portions of the treatment plan and program to the physical therapist assistant consistent with the physical therapist assistant's education, training and experience.
- (9) Provide on-site assessment and reevaluation of each patient's treatment a minimum of one time per calendar month or every tenth treatment day, whichever is sooner, and adjust the treatment plan as appropriate.
- (10) Coordinate discharge plan decisions and the final assessment with the physical therapist assistant.

The rules adopted in this order shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin administrative register pursuant to s. 227.22 (2) (intro.), Stats.

Date May 21, 1992

Agency B. Ann Neviasek
Secretary
Medical Examining Board

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