

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2010. For more information, go to www.apta.org/ethics.

APTA Guide for Conduct of the Physical Therapist Assistant

This *Guide for Conduct of the Physical Therapist Assistant* (Guide) is intended to serve physical therapist assistants in interpreting the *Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant* (Standards) of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). The Guide provides guidelines by which physical therapist assistants may determine the propriety of their conduct. It is also intended to guide the development of physical therapist assistant students. The Standards and Guide apply to all physical therapist assistants. These guidelines are subject to change as the dynamics of the profession change and as new patterns of health care delivery are developed and accepted by the professional community and the public. This Guide is subject to monitoring and timely revision by the Ethics and Judicial Committee of the Association.

Interpreting Standards

The interpretations expressed in this Guide reflect the opinions, decisions, and advice of the Ethics and Judicial Committee. These interpretations are intended to guide a physical therapist assistant in applying general ethical principles to specific situations. They should not be considered inclusive of all situations that a physical therapist assistant may encounter.

Reference to Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant

In light of the recent amendments to the *Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant*, and in lieu of setting forth in the Guide interpretations of the *Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant*, the Ethics and Judicial Committee does hereby refer Physical Therapist Assistants to the *Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant*.

As noted in the Purpose of the Guide set forth above, this Guide is subject to change and the Ethics and Judicial Committee will monitor and timely revise this Guide when necessary and as needed.

Issued by Ethics and Judicial Committee
American Physical Therapy Association
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Please note for future reference that the most current version of the Guide for Conduct of the Physical Therapist Assistant may be accessed through the APTA website.