

Kentucky State Board of Physical Therapy

9110 Leesgate Road, Suite 6

Louisville, KY 40222-5159

502/327-8497

Fax: 502/423-0934

April 21, 2003

RE: OT modality supervision

Dear Mr. Sauve:

In answer to many questions in regard to the supervision of OT's for DPAM certification, the following statement is being issued on our web site.

The Kentucky State Board of Physical Therapy, at its last regularly scheduled meeting on March 20, 2003, discussed whether it was within the scope of practice of physical therapy for a licensed physical therapist to supervise a licensed occupational therapist in the certification process of Deep Physical Agent Modalities ("DPAM") for that occupational therapist.

The Board concluded that there is nothing in the Kentucky Physical Therapy Practice Act, KRS Chapter 327, that prevents licensed physical therapists from supervising these treatments for certification purposes for another health professional as long as such supervision meets the statutes and regulations of the Kentucky Board of Licensure for Occupational Therapy as established in its law at 201 KAR 28:170.

The Board further concluded that the licensed physical therapist shall comply with all statutes and regulations in KRS Chapter 327 which govern supportive personnel who are under supervision of the physical therapist. A licensed occupational therapist would be supportive personnel under KRS Chapter 327 just as a physical therapy tech or aide is such supportive personnel.

In summary, KRS Chapter 327 does not prevent a licensed physical therapist from supervising another licensed health professional within the scope of practice of physical therapy, so long as that licensed health professional is treated as supportive personnel under KRS Chapter 327 and so long as all requirements of KRS Chapter 327 are met by the licensed physical therapist. Therefore, so long as these requirements are met, the licensed physical therapist may supervise a licensed occupational therapist for purposes of DPAM certification.

If you have any further questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Klusch Hughes
Executive Director

Mr. Donald M. Condor, P.T.
9 Canterbury Drive
Louisville, KY 40220-1241

RE: OT modality supervision

Dear Mr. Condor:

Mr. William Tharp, P.T.
1925 Strathmoor Blvd.
Louisville, KY 40205

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Dear Mr. Tharp:

Seth Sauve, P.T.
733 Whispering Brook Trace
Lexington, KY 40509-4223

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Dear Mr. Sauve: