
****Refer to Page 2 of the Agenda for Meeting Access Information****

Call to Order – Arkena L. Dailey, PT, DPT

- Welcome and Introductions
 - Mission of the Board
-

Public Comment

Discussion and Recommendations

- Revisions to Guidance Document 112-21, Guidance on Telehealth
 - Questions from Licensees – Scope of Practice
-

Meeting Adjournment

This information is in **DRAFT** form and is subject to change. The official agenda and packet will be approved by the public body at the meeting and will be available to the public pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3707(F).

Virginia Board of Physical Therapy
Instructions for Accessing November 9, 2020 Virtual Legislative/Regulatory Committee
Meeting and Providing Public Comment

- **Access:** Perimeter Center building access remains restricted to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To observe this virtual meeting, use one of the options below. Participation capacity is limited and is on a first come, first serve basis due to the capacity of CISCO WebEx technology.
- **Written Public Comment:** Written comments are **strongly preferred** due to the limits of the electronic meeting platform and should be received by email to Corie.Wolf@dhp.virginia.gov no later than 12:00 noon on November 6, 2020. The written comments will be made available to the Board members for review prior to the meeting.
- **Oral Public Comment:** Oral comments will be received during the meeting from persons who have submitted an email to Corie.Wolf@dhp.virginia.gov no later than 12:00 noon on November 6, 2020 indicating that they wish to offer oral comment. Comment may be offered by these individuals when their name is announced by the Board President. Comments will be restricted to 2 minutes each; the maximum allotted time for public comment will be 30 minutes.
- Public participation connections will be muted following the public comment period.
- Should the Board enter into a closed session, public participants will be blocked from seeing and hearing the discussion. When the Board re-enters into open session, public participation connections to see and hear the discussions will be restored.
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<https://covaconf.webex.com/covaconf/j.php?MTID=m4e33929a76da439e5bf2138cb872d4de>

Note: Guidance Document does not reflect recent federal guidance on HIPAA compliance during COVID-19 crisis. See Board website for more information.

Virginia Board of Physical Therapy Guidance on Telehealth

Section One: Preamble

The Board of Physical Therapy recognizes that using telehealth services in the delivery of physical therapy services offers potential benefits in the provision of care. Advancements in technology have created expanded and innovative treatment options for physical therapist and clients. The appropriate application of these services can enhance care by facilitating communication between practitioners, other health care providers, and their clients. The delivery of physical therapy services by or under the supervision of a physical therapist via telehealth in physical therapy falls under the purview of the existing regulatory body and the respective practice act and regulations. The Virginia General Assembly has not established statutory parameters regarding the provision and delivery of telehealth services. Therefore, physical therapy practitioners must apply existing laws and regulations to the provision of telehealth services.

The Board issues this guidance document to assist practitioners with the application of current laws to telehealth service practices. These guidelines should not be construed to alter the scope of physical therapy practice or authorize the delivery of health care services in a setting, or in a manner, not authorized by law. For clarity, a physical therapist using telehealth services must take appropriate steps to establish the practitioner-patient (client) relationship and conduct all appropriate evaluations and history of the client consistent with traditional standards of care for the particular client presentation. As such, some situations and client presentations are appropriate for the utilization of telehealth services as a component of, or in lieu of, in-person provision of physical therapy care, while others are not. The practitioner is responsible for making this determination, and in doing so must adhere to applicable laws and standards of care.

The board has developed these guidelines to educate licensees as to the appropriate use of telehealth services in the practice of physical therapy. The Board is committed to ensuring patient access to the convenience and benefits afforded by telehealth services, while promoting the responsible provision of physical therapy services.

It is the expectation of the Board that practitioners who provide physical therapy care, electronically or otherwise, maintain the highest degree of professionalism and should:

- Place the welfare of the client first;
- Maintain acceptable and appropriate standards of practice;
- Adhere to recognized ethical codes governing the physical therapy profession;
- Adhere to applicable laws and regulations;
- Properly supervise PTA's and support personnel;
- Protect client confidentiality.

Section Two: Definition

Telehealth is the use of electronic technology or media including interactive audio or video to engage in the practice of physical therapy. In this guidance document, “telehealth” does not include an audio-only telephone, electronic mail message, facsimile transmission, or online questionnaire.

Section Three: Responsibility for and Appropriate Use of Technology

A client’s appropriateness for evaluation and treatment via telehealth should be determined by the Physical Therapist on a case-by-case basis, with selections based on physical therapist judgment, client preference, technology availability, risks and benefits, and professional standards of care. A PT is responsible for all aspects of physical therapy care provided to a client, and should determine and document the technology used in the provision of physical therapy. Additionally, the PT is responsible for assuring the technological proficiency of those involved in the client’s care.

Section Four: Verification of Identity

Given that in the telehealth clinical setting the client and therapist are not in the same location and may not have established a prior in-person relationship, it is critical, at least initially, that the identities of the physical therapy providers and client be verified. Photo identification is recommended for both the client and all parties who may be involved in the delivery of care to the client. The photo identification, at minimum, should include the name of the individual; however, personal information such as address or driver’s license number does not have to be shared or revealed. The client may utilize current means, such as state websites, to verify the physical therapy provider is licensed in the originating jurisdiction (where the client is located and receiving telehealth services).

Section Five: Informed Consent

Clients should be made aware of any limitations that telehealth services present as compared to an in-person encounter for that client’s situation, such as the inability to perform hands-on examination, assessment and treatment, clients should give consent to such services and evidence documenting appropriate client informed consent for the use of telehealth services should be obtained and maintained. Appropriate informed consent should, as a baseline, include the following:

- Identification of the client, the practitioner, and the practitioner’s credentials;
- Types of activities permitted using telehealth services (e.g. such as photography, recording or videotaping the client.);
- Details on security measures taken with the use of telehealth services, as well as potential risks to privacy notwithstanding such measures;
- Hold harmless clause for information lost due to technical failures; and
- Requirement for express client consent to forward client-identifiable information to a third party.

Section Six: Physical therapist/Client Relationship

Developing a physical therapist/client relationship is relevant regardless of the delivery method of the physical therapy services. As alternative delivery methods such as telehealth emerge, it bears stating that the PT/client relationship can be established in the absence of actual physical contact between the PT and client. Just as in a traditional (in-person) encounter, once the relationship is established, the therapist has an obligation to adhere to the reasonable standards of care for the client (duty of care).

Section Seven: Licensure

The practice of physical therapy occurs where the client is located at the time telehealth services are provided. A practitioner must be licensed by, or under the jurisdiction of, the regulatory board of the state where the client is located. Practitioners who evaluate or treat through online service sites must possess appropriate licensure in all jurisdictions where clients receive care.

Section Eight: Standards of Care

It is the responsibility of the PT to ensure the standard of care required both professionally and legally is met. As such, it is incumbent upon the PT to determine which clients and therapeutic interventions are appropriate for the utilization of technology as a component of, or in lieu of, in-person provision of physical therapy care. Physical therapy providers should be guided by professional discipline, best available evidence, and any existing clinical practice guidelines when practicing via telehealth. Physical therapy interventions and/or referrals/consultations made using technology will be held to the same standards of care as those in traditional (in-person) settings. The documentation of the telehealth encounter should be held at minimum to the standards of an in-person encounter. Additionally, any aspects of the care unique to the telehealth encounter, such as the specific technology used, should be noted.

Section Nine: Privacy and Security of Client Records and Exchange of Information

In any physical therapy encounter, steps should be taken to ensure compliance with all relevant laws, regulations and codes for confidentiality and integrity of identifiable client health information. Written policies and procedures should be maintained for documentation, maintenance, and transmission of the records of encounters using telehealth services. Such policies and procedures should address (1) privacy, (2) health-care personnel (in addition to the practitioner addressee) who will process messages, (3) hours of operation, (4) types of transactions that will be permitted electronically, (5) required client information to be included in the communication, such as client name, identification number and type of transaction, (6) archival and retrieval, and (7) quality oversight mechanisms. Policies and procedures should be periodically evaluated for currency and be maintained in an accessible and readily available manner for review.

Section Ten: Client Records

The client record should include, if applicable, copies of all client-related electronic communications, including client-practitioner communication, prescriptions, laboratory and test results, evaluations and consultations, records of past care, and instructions obtained or produced in connection with the utilization of telehealth services. Informed consents obtained in connection with an encounter involving telehealth services should also be filed in the medical record. The client record established during the use of telehealth services should be accessible to both the practitioner and the client, and consistent with all established laws and regulations governing client healthcare records.

Section Eleven: Technical Guidelines

Physical therapy providers need to have the level of understanding of the technology that ensures safe, effective delivery of care. Providers should be fully aware of the capabilities and limitations of the technology they intend to use and that the equipment is sufficient to support the telehealth encounter, is available and functioning properly and all personnel are trained in equipment operation, troubleshooting, and necessary hardware/software updates. Additionally, arrangements should be made to ensure access to appropriate technological support as needed.

Section Twelve: Emergencies and Client Safety Procedures

When providing physical therapy services, it is essential to have procedures in place to address technical, medical, or clinical emergencies. Emergency procedures need to take into account local emergency plans. Alternate methods of communication between both parties should be established prior to providing telehealth services in case of technical complications. It is the responsibility of the provider to have all needed information to activate emergency medical services to the clients' physical location if needed at time of the services are being provided. If during the provision of services the provider feels that the client might be experiencing any medical or clinical complications or emergencies, services should be terminated and the client referred to an appropriate level of service.

Section Thirteen: Guidance Document Limitations

Nothing in this document shall be construed to limit the authority of the Board to investigate, discipline, or regulate its licensees pursuant to applicable Virginia statutes and regulations. Additionally, nothing in this document shall be construed to limit the Board's ability to review the delivery or use of telehealth services by its licensees for adherence to the standard of care and compliance with the requirements set forth in the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Furthermore, this document does not limit the Board's ability to determine that certain situations fail to meet the standard of care or standards set forth in laws and regulations despite technical adherence to the guidance produced herein.

Guidance Document 112-21 - Telehealth

Questions received:

- **Audio/Visual Telehealth vs. Audio-only Telehealth**

- *"I am a Virginia licensed physical therapist. I am requesting that the Board relax its guidelines for telehealth PT service to include "audio only" telehealth during this Covid19 epidemic. I provide early intervention services to families in their homes. Medicaid and some private insurance providers have approved telehealth PT as a reimbursable service - including "audio only" telehealth. By my research it appears that the Virginia PT board currently restricts approved telehealth PT service to that using audio plus visual platforms. There are low income families across the state who will have technology to support only audio interaction. I think this regulation is discriminatory to them in this time of epidemic crisis. Therapists are professional and can ask sufficient questions and give sufficient multiple answers to make up for the lack of a visual component to their interactions with these families. Therapist / patient contact is the best means of providing service- but these are special times. We need a Board who sees what needs to be done to serve all members of our society during this crisis. Special times require special rules."*
- *"I am an early intervention provider in VA and a licensed PT. I only have a few clients and all of them do not have access to WiFi. They are requesting telephone sessions moving forward. Based on the document on your website, I am confused about if this is permitted under my VA PT license. Section 2 begins by defining telehealth as the use of interactive audio OR video to engage in the practice of PT. The next sentence states that "telehealth does NOT include audio-only telephone." There is also a link on the VA BOH page to the HHS website and on there it states that "A covered health care provider that wants to use audio or video communication technology to provide telehealth to patients during the COVID-19 nationwide public health emergency can use any non-public facing remote communication product that is available to communicate with patients. Will you please provide clarification as to whether physical therapists in Virginia are currently permitted to utilize phone-only communication to provide physical therapy services including on-going early intervention sessions?"*
- *"...I received a question about whether or not certain practitioners are allowed by the professional board to use the expanded definition of telehealth (phone-only) services due to the COVID-19 crisis. A guidance document for PTs says that phone-only is not allowed...."*

- **Supervision and Remote Evaluation**

- *"I examined the Telehealth guidance documents on the Board website and I did not see a mention of PTA supervision. Would it be possible for a PT to do a telehealth evaluation and have the patient follow up with a PTA?"*
- *"I have questions regarding the following hypothetical scenario. The PT is unable to drive to all clinics due to long driving distance and understaffing issues to complete face-to-face evaluations. The PT has a camera set up at home to complete evaluations via telemed regardless of the complexity of the diagnosis. The PTA's are onsite at the clinics and are in the room with the patient and the PT is telling the PTA what to measure, perform specific tests ect. and reporting numbers back to PT. The patient also signs a telemed consent form for the evaluation. Is this legal for a PTA to be physically touching the patient with the PT on the camera? ... What if after the PT completes the evaluation to then never see the patient physically (in person or telemed) and allows the PTA to complete Updated Plan of Cares and the PT just signs them and sends them back via email. To clarify, is this legal?"*

- **Out-of-state telehealth practice (Note: Addressed by Executive Order 57)**

- *“During the COVID-19 pandemic, are PT’s licensed in [North Carolina/Maryland/New Jersey] but not licensed in Virginia permitted to provide telehealth services for evaluations and/or treatments to Virginia residents.”*
- *“I own a practice in Washington DC and many of my practitioners [sic] are only licensed in the District. Many of our patients live in VA and we would like to continue to treat them through Telehealth Services ONLY through this COVID-19 Pandemic for continuity of care. Are you allowing us to see these clients, cross state line, if we are practicing in good faith during a World Wide Pandemic? If we have to become licensed in VA it will not occur fast enough to allow us to continue with therapy services, this will harm both the patient causing them to be in need of medical care during this Pandemic and hurt our practitioners who will be out of work due to proximity of state lines here in the DMV.”*
- *“I had a question that relates to telehealth amid COVID-19. We provide physical, occupational and speech therapy services in a pediatric outpatient setting. With our location in [MD], all of our clinicians have Maryland licensure. However, some of our patients typically travel from their home in Virginia [sic] for our services. We have closed our centers. So, we are looking to provide PT... via telehealth, with our clinicians working from HOME to patients at HOME (which could be DE, MD, VA). With our need to shift to telehealth to maintain continuity of these prescribed services, are there any limitations with regard to the state/licensure in which the patient lives given that they all have State of Maryland professional licenses in either PT...?”*

- **Confusion Whether Telehealth Permitted**

- *“...While rehabilitative services furnished via telehealth would not replace traditional clinical care, telehealth would be a valuable resource for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in expanding their reach to meet the needs of patients when and where those needs arise, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. VA residents would benefit from lifting many of the current restrictions on telehealth services, including who can provide telehealth and where these services can take place....”*
- *“Here's my question: Has the Virginia Board of Physical Therapy put out any kind of guidance on providing PT via telehealth modalities during COVID 19? I'd particularly like to know if you all have put out a definite "no" on this.”*

- **Questions re: Billing and Insurance Coverage**

- *“I own a small pediatric outpatient clinic in [x], Virginia where we provide medically necessary occupational therapy and physical therapy to persons ages birth through age 21. Our children are seen exclusively in our clinic; however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic I have been forced to close the clinic to in-person visits due to the safety of my employees, our children, families, and the general public...At this time, the only insurance company who will continue coverage of therapy services through telehealth is [x].”*

Possible Revisions/Additions to Guidance Document:

Revise: Section One: Preamble

- Consider adding language to emphasize that: “Telehealth is used as a means to deliver physical therapy services already authorized within the scope of practice of physical therapy and within the standards for care and supervision established by the Board’s laws and regulations. The use of telehealth, even during the course of a declared public health emergency, does not constitute a waiver of a practitioner’s duty to follow existing standards of practice.”

Revise: Section Two: Definition

- Consider language to clarify that the practice of telehealth via audio-only telephone is not prohibited:

“In this guidance document, “telehealth” does not include an audio-only telephone call, electronic mail message, facsimile transmission, or online questionnaire, where these communications are intended to be simple client communications rather than the practice or rendering of physical therapy services.”

Revise: Section Three: Responsibility for and Appropriate Use of Technology

- Consider language to reiterate a PT’s responsibility to supervise PTA’s who may be engaging in providing telehealth services, as well as PTA’s and support personnel who may be utilizing telehealth technology:

A PT is responsible for all aspects of physical therapy care provided to a client, and should determine and document the technology used in the provision of physical therapy. Additionally the PT is responsible for assuring the technological proficiency of those involved in the client’s care. A PT’s supervisory responsibilities do not change with the use of telehealth to deliver physical therapy services.

Revise: Section Seven: Licensure

- Consider addition of reference to continuity of care exception during public health emergencies:

With the exception of telehealth services delivered during declared public health emergencies to ensure continuity of care (Section Fourteen), the practice of physical therapy occurs where the client is located at the time telehealth services are provided.

Revise: Section Twelve: Client Emergencies and Client Safety Procedures

- Consider renaming section as above.

Revise: Section Thirteen: Guidance Document Limitations:

- Consider adding clarification that the Board’s guidance does not extend to billing for services provided by telehealth:

The guidance in this document does not extend to billing for telehealth services.

Add: Section Fourteen: Telehealth During Declared Public Health Emergencies

During the COVID-19 emergency, physical therapists from out-of-state who are not licensed in Virginia may use telehealth to ensure continuity of care with their established patients. Please note that establishment of a relationship via telehealth with a new [client] patient who is a Virginia resident requires a Virginia license.

Questions from Licensees – Scope of Practice

On Wed, Feb 19, 2020 at 2:27 PM [redacted] wrote:

Dear directors and fellow therapists,

My name is [redacted]. I currently hold an inactive license in the state of VA, and have a doctorate level education from [redacted]. I own a nail salon in [redacted], VA (I know - total 180) and am interested in providing a new service to my clientele called Plasma Skin Tightening, using an FDA-approved plasma pen.

To give you some insight on the treatment, it uses plasma to sublimate a very small dot of epidermis, thereby inducing contraction of skin around the area, while also stimulating fibroblasts to produce collagen. The result is the elimination of saggy, wrinkled, excess skin and a plumped-up, youthful appearance. It is NOT the same as microneedling. The effected tissue is only the epidermis. It does not penetrate past the upper layer of skin.

There are no regulations in place, that I could find, as to who can legally perform this procedure, and anyone who wants to pay for the training can be "trained." Of the people I have found online who offer the service, there are estheticians, medical spas where typically an esthetician or nurse provides the treatment, and someone with an MBBS degree (who is local to me).

I have spoken with a couple local estheticians who have also looked into the treatment and both have said that it is out of their scope of practice, however, could provide the treatment if supervised by a doctor (I'm assuming a medical doctor, though the law is unclear).

With all that being said, because I do hold a doctorate in a health care field, and within that field of care we are, or can be, trained in special modalities such as electrical stimulation, iontophoresis, dry needling, would care, ultrasound, high-velocity thrust manipulations, moist heat, ice, and first aid and CPR/AED application, I believe I am trained and educated more than sufficiently to safely provide this service. All of the aforementioned modalities either affect tissues far below the epidermis, or have the potential to, as well as the potential to cause serious harm. Examples of these would be burning skin with iontophoresis, allergic reaction to medicine, infection during wound dressing changes or from skin piercing during dry needling, electrical shock or pacemaker disruption, or bone pain/burning soft tissue from improper use of ultrasound.

The plasma pen is not without its own set of risks, however they are relatively small, and mainly cosmetic. With proper training, conservative use, and proper aftercare by the client, risks are nearly nonexistent.

My question to you, is this: Would the Board enable Plasma Skin Tightening as a treatment that falls under the scope of practice based on the training and knowledge we obtain throughout our education and continued education?

I am also seeking advice from an attorney as well, to get the legal perspective. Have a wonderful day, and I look forward to continuing this conversation soon.

[redacted]

[redacted]

Commonwealth of Virginia



**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PROFESSIONS
REGULATIONS
GOVERNING THE PRACTICE OF PHYSICAL
THERAPY**

Title of Regulations: 18 VAC 112-20-10 et seq.

Statutory Authority: Chapter 34.1 of Title 54.1 of the *Code of Virginia*

Revised: March 5, 2020

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CHAPTER 20

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE PRACTICE OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Part I. General Provisions.

18VAC112-20-10. Definitions.

In addition to the words and terms defined in § 54.1-3473 of the Code of Virginia, the following words and terms when used in this chapter shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Active practice" means a minimum of 160 hours of professional practice as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant within the 24-month period immediately preceding renewal. Active practice may include supervisory, administrative, educational or consultative activities or responsibilities for the delivery of such services.

"Approved program" means an educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association.

"Assessment tool" means oPTion or any other competency assessment tool developed or approved by FSBPT.

"CLEP" means the College Level Examination Program.

"Contact hour" means 60 minutes of time spent in continuing learning activity exclusive of breaks, meals or vendor exhibits.

"Direct supervision" means a physical therapist or a physical therapist assistant is physically present and immediately available and is fully responsible for the physical therapy tasks or activities being performed.

"Discharge" means the discontinuation of interventions in an episode of care that have been provided in an unbroken sequence in a single practice setting and related to the physical therapy interventions for a given condition or problem.

"Evaluation" means a process in which the physical therapist makes clinical judgments based on data gathered during an examination or screening in order to plan and implement a treatment intervention, provide preventive care, reduce risks of injury and impairment, or provide for consultation.

"FCCPT" means the Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy.

"FSBPT" means the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy.

"General supervision" means a physical therapist shall be available for consultation.

"National examination" means the examinations developed and administered by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy and approved by the board for licensure as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant.

"Re-evaluation" means a process in which the physical therapist makes clinical judgments based on data gathered during an examination or screening in order to determine a patient's response to the treatment plan and care provided.

"Support personnel" means a person who is performing designated routine tasks related to physical therapy under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant within the scope of this chapter.

"TOEFL" means the Test of English as a Foreign Language.

"Trainee" means a person seeking licensure as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant who is undergoing a traineeship.

"Traineeship" means a period of active clinical practice during which an applicant for licensure as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant works under the direct supervision of a physical therapist approved by the board.

"TSE" means the Test of Spoken English.

"Type 1" means continuing learning activities offered by an approved organization as specified in 18VAC112-20-131.

"Type 2" means continuing learning activities which may or may not be offered by an approved organization but shall be activities considered by the learner to be beneficial to practice or to continuing learning.

18VAC112-20-20. (Repealed)

18VAC112-20-25. Current name and address.

Each licensee shall furnish the board his current name and address of record. All notices required by law or by this chapter to be given by the board to any licensee shall be validly given when mailed to the latest address of record provided or when served to the licensee. Any change of name or change in the address of record or the public address, if different from the address of record, shall be furnished to the board within 30 days of such change.

18VAC112-20-26. Criteria for delegation of informal fact-finding proceedings to an agency subordinate.

A. Decision to delegate.

In accordance with § 54.1-2400 (10) of the Code of Virginia, the board may delegate an informal fact-finding proceeding to an agency subordinate upon determination that probable cause exists that a practitioner may be subject to a disciplinary action.

B. Criteria for delegation. Cases that may not be delegated to an agency subordinate include, but are not limited to, those that involve:

1. Intentional or negligent conduct that causes or is likely to cause injury to a patient;
2. Mandatory suspension resulting from action by another jurisdiction or a felony conviction;
3. Impairment with an inability to practice with skill and safety;
4. Sexual misconduct;

5. Unauthorized practice.

C. Criteria for an agency subordinate.

1. An agency subordinate authorized by the board to conduct an informal fact-finding proceeding may include board members and professional staff or other persons deemed knowledgeable by virtue of their training and experience in administrative proceedings involving the regulation and discipline of health professionals.

2. The executive director shall maintain a list of appropriately qualified persons to whom an informal fact-finding proceeding may be delegated.

3. The board may delegate to the executive director the selection of the agency subordinate who is deemed appropriately qualified to conduct a proceeding based on the qualifications of the subordinate and the type of case being heard.

18VAC112-20-27. Fees.

A. Unless otherwise provided, fees listed in this section shall not be refundable.

B. Licensure by examination.

1. The application fee shall be \$140 for a physical therapist and \$100 for a physical therapist assistant.

2. The fees for taking all required examinations shall be paid directly to the examination services.

C. Licensure by endorsement. The fee for licensure by endorsement shall be \$140 for a physical therapist and \$100 for a physical therapist assistant.

D. Licensure renewal and reinstatement.

1. The fee for active license renewal for a physical therapist shall be \$135 and for a physical therapist assistant shall be \$70 and shall be due by December 31 in each even-numbered year.

2. The fee for an inactive license renewal for a physical therapist shall be \$70 and for a physical therapist assistant shall be \$35 and shall be due by December 31 in each even-numbered year.

3. A fee of \$50 for a physical therapist and \$25 for a physical therapist assistant for processing a late renewal within one renewal cycle shall be paid in addition to the renewal fee.

4. The fee for reinstatement of a license that has expired for two or more years shall be \$180 for a physical therapist and \$120 for a physical therapist assistant and shall be submitted with an application for licensure reinstatement.

E. Other fees.

1. The fee for an application for reinstatement of a license that has been revoked shall be \$1,000; the fee for an application for reinstatement of a license that has been suspended shall be \$500.
2. The fee for a duplicate license shall be \$5, and the fee for a duplicate wall certificate shall be \$15.
3. The handling fee for a returned check or a dishonored credit card or debit card shall be \$50.
4. The fee for a letter of good standing/verification to another jurisdiction shall be \$10.
5. The application fee for direct access certification shall be \$75 for a physical therapist to obtain certification to provide services without a referral.

Part II. Licensure Requirements.

18VAC112-20-30. General requirements.

Licensure as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant shall be by examination or by endorsement.

18VAC112-20-40. Education requirements: graduates of approved programs.

A. An applicant for licensure who is a graduate of an approved program shall submit documented evidence of his graduation from such a program with the required application and fee.

B. If an applicant is a graduate of an approved program located outside of the United States or Canada, he shall provide proof of proficiency in the English language by passing TOEFL and TSE or the TOEFL iBT, the Internet-based tests of listening, reading, speaking and writing by a score determined by the board or an equivalent examination approved by the board. TOEFL iBT or TOEFL and TSE may be waived upon evidence that the applicant's physical therapy program was taught in English or that the native tongue of the applicant's nationality is English.

18VAC112-20-50. Education requirements: graduates of schools not approved by an accrediting agency approved by the board.

A. An applicant for initial licensure as a physical therapist who is a graduate of a school not approved by an accrediting agency approved by the board shall submit the required application and fee and provide documentation of the physical therapist's certification by a report from the FCCPT or of the physical therapist eligibility for licensure as verified by a report from any other credentialing agency approved by the board that substantiates that the physical therapist has been evaluated in accordance with requirements of subsection B.

B. The board shall only approve a credentialing agency that:

1. Utilizes the FSBPT Coursework Evaluation Tool for Foreign Educated Physical Therapists, based on the year of graduation, and utilizes original source documents to establish substantial equivalency to an approved physical therapy program;

2. Conducts a review of any license or registration held by the physical therapist in any country or jurisdiction to ensure that the license or registration is current and unrestricted or was unrestricted at the time it expired or was lapsed; and

3. Verifies English language proficiency by passage of the TOEFL and TSE examination or the TOEFL iBT, the Internet-based tests of listening, reading, speaking and writing or by review of evidence that the applicant's physical therapy program was taught in English or that the native tongue of the applicant's nationality is English.

C. An applicant for licensure as a physical therapist assistant who is a graduate of a school not approved by the board shall submit with the required application and fee the following:

1. Proof of proficiency in the English language by passing TOEFL and TSE or the TOEFL iBT, the Internet-based tests of listening, reading, speaking and writing by a score determined by the board or an equivalent examination approved by the board. TOEFL iBT or TOEFL and TSE may be waived upon evidence that the applicant's physical therapist assistant program was taught in English or that the native tongue of the applicant's nationality is English.

2. A copy of the original certificate or diploma which has been certified as a true copy of the original by a notary public, verifying his graduation from a physical therapy curriculum.

If the certificate or diploma is not in the English language, submit either:

a. An English translation of such certificate or diploma by a qualified translator other than the applicant; or

b. An official certification in English from the school attesting to the applicant's attendance and graduation date.

3. Verification of the equivalency of the applicant's education to the educational requirements of an approved program for physical therapist assistants from a scholastic credentials service approved by the board:

D. An applicant for initial licensure as a physical therapist or a physical therapist assistant who is not a graduate of an approved program shall also submit verification of having successfully completed a 1,000-hour traineeship within a two-year period under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist. The board may grant an extension beyond two years for circumstances beyond the control of the applicant, such as temporary disability or mandatory military service.

1. The traineeship shall be in accordance with requirements of 18VAC112-20-140.

2. The traineeship requirements of this part may be waived if the applicant for a license can verify, in writing, the successful completion of one year of clinical physical therapy practice as a licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant in the United States, its territories, the District of Columbia, or Canada, equivalent to the requirements of this chapter.

18VAC112-20-60. Requirements for licensure by examination.

Every applicant for initial licensure by examination shall submit:

1. Documentation of having met the educational requirements specified in 18VAC112-20-40 or 18VAC112-20-50;
2. The required application, fees and credentials to the board; and
3. Documentation of passage of the national examination as prescribed by the board.

18VAC112-20-65. Requirements for licensure by endorsement.

A. A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant who holds a current, unrestricted license in the United States, its territories, the District of Columbia, or Canada, may be licensed in Virginia by endorsement.

B. An applicant for licensure by endorsement shall submit:

1. Documentation of having met the educational requirements prescribed in 18VAC112-20-40 or 18VAC112-20-50. In lieu of meeting such requirements, an applicant may provide evidence of clinical practice consisting of at least 2,500 hours of patient care during the five years immediately preceding application for licensure in Virginia with a current, unrestricted license issued by another U. S. jurisdiction;
2. The required application, fees, and credentials to the board;
3. A current report from the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (HIPDB);
4. Evidence of completion of 15 hours of continuing education for each year in which the applicant held a license in another U.S. jurisdiction, or 60 hours obtained within the past four years;
5. Documentation of passage of an examination equivalent to the Virginia examination at the time of initial licensure or documentation of passage of an examination required by another state at the time of initial licensure in that state; and
6. Documentation of active practice in physical therapy in another U. S. jurisdiction for at least 320 hours within the four years immediately preceding his application for licensure. A physical therapist who does not meet the active practice requirement shall:
 - a. Successfully complete 320 hours in a traineeship in accordance with requirements in 18VAC112-20-140; or
 - b. Document that he attained at least Level 2 on the FSBPT assessment tool within the two years preceding application for licensure in Virginia and successfully complete 160 hours in a traineeship in accordance with the requirements in 18VAC112-20-140.

C. A physical therapist assistant seeking licensure by endorsement who has not actively practiced physical therapy for at least 320 hours within the four years immediately preceding his application

for licensure shall successfully complete 320 hours in a traineeship in accordance with the requirements in 18VAC112-20-140.

18VAC112-20-70. Traineeship for unlicensed graduate scheduled to sit for the national examination.

A. Upon approval of the president of the board or his designee, an unlicensed graduate who is registered with the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy to sit for the national examination may be employed as a trainee under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist until the results of the national examination are received.

B. The traineeship, which shall be in accordance with requirements of 18VAC112-20-140, shall terminate two working days following receipt by the candidate of the licensure examination results.

C. The unlicensed graduate may reapply for a new traineeship while awaiting to take the next examination. A new traineeship shall not be approved for more than one year following the receipt of the first examination results.

18VAC112-20-80. (Repealed)

18VAC112-20-81. Requirements for direct access certification.

A. An applicant for certification to provide services to patients without a referral as specified in § 54.1-3482.1 of the Code of Virginia shall hold an active, unrestricted license as a physical therapist in Virginia and shall submit evidence satisfactory to the board that he has one of the following qualifications:

1. Completion of a transitional program in physical therapy as recognized by the board; or
2. At least three years of postlicensure, active practice with evidence of 15 contact hours of continuing education in medical screening or differential diagnosis, including passage of a postcourse examination. The required continuing education shall be offered by a provider or sponsor listed as approved by the board in 18VAC112-20-131 and may be face-to-face or online education courses.

B. In addition to the evidence of qualification for certification required in subsection A of this section, an applicant seeking direct access certification shall submit to the board:

1. A completed application as provided by the board;
2. Any additional documentation as may be required by the board to determine eligibility of the applicant; and
3. The application fee as specified in 18VAC112-20-27.

Part III. Practice Requirements.

18VAC112-20-90. General responsibilities.

A. The physical therapist shall be responsible for managing all aspects of the physical therapy care of each patient and shall provide:

1. The initial evaluation for each patient and its documentation in the patient record;
2. Periodic reevaluation, including documentation of the patient's response to therapeutic intervention; and
3. The documented status of the patient at the time of discharge, including the response to therapeutic intervention. If a patient is discharged from a health care facility without the opportunity for the physical therapist to reevaluate the patient, the final note in the patient record may document patient status.

B. The physical therapist shall communicate the overall plan of care to the patient or his legally authorized representative and shall also communicate with a referring doctor of medicine, osteopathy, chiropractic, podiatry, or dental surgery, nurse practitioner or physician assistant to the extent required by §54.1-3482 of the Code of Virginia.

C. A physical therapist assistant may assist the physical therapist in performing selected components of physical therapy intervention to include treatment, measurement and data collection, but not to include the performance of an evaluation as defined in 18 VAC 112-20-10.

D. A physical therapist assistant's visits to a patient may be made under general supervision.

E. A physical therapist providing services with a direct access certification as specified in § 54.1-3482 of the Code of Virginia shall utilize the Direct Access Patient Attestation and Medical Release Form prescribed by the board or otherwise include in the patient record the information, attestation and written consent required by subsection B of § 54.1-3482 of the Code of Virginia.

18VAC112-20-100. Supervisory responsibilities.

A. A physical therapist shall be fully responsible for any action of persons performing physical therapy functions under the physical therapist's supervision or direction.

B. Support personnel shall only perform routine assigned tasks under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist or a licensed physical therapist assistant, who shall only assign those tasks or activities that are nondiscretionary and do not require the exercise of professional judgment.

C. A physical therapist shall provide direct supervision to no more than three individual trainees at any one time.

D. A physical therapist shall provide direct supervision to a student in an approved program who is satisfying clinical educational requirements in physical therapy. A physical therapist or a physical

therapist assistant shall provide direct supervision to a student in an approved program for physical therapist assistants.

18VAC112-20-110. (Repealed).

18VAC112-20-120. Responsibilities to patients.

A. The initial patient visit shall be made by the physical therapist for evaluation of the patient and establishment of a plan of care.

B. The physical therapist assistant's first visit with the patient shall only be made after verbal or written communication with the physical therapist regarding patient status and plan of care. Documentation of such communication shall be made in the patient's record.

C. Documentation of physical therapy interventions shall be recorded on a patient's record by the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant providing the care.

D. The physical therapist shall reevaluate the patient as needed, but not less than according to the following schedules:

1. For inpatients in hospitals as defined in §32.1-123 of the Code of Virginia, it shall be not less than once every seven consecutive days.

2. For patients in other settings, it shall be not less than one of 12 visits made to the patient during a 30-day period, or once every 30 days from the last reevaluation, whichever occurs first.

3. For patients who have been receiving physical therapy care for the same condition or injury for six months or longer, it shall be at least every 90 days from the last reevaluation.

Failure to abide by this subsection due to the absence of the physical therapist in case of illness, vacation, or professional meeting, for a period not to exceed five consecutive days, will not constitute a violation of these provisions.

E. The physical therapist shall be responsible for ongoing involvement in the care of the patient to include regular communication with a physical therapist assistant regarding the patient's plan of treatment.

Part IV. Renewal or Relicensure Requirements.

18VAC112-20-130. Biennial renewal of license.

A. A physical therapist and physical therapist assistant who intends to continue practice shall renew his license biennially by December 31 in each even-numbered year and pay to the board the renewal fee prescribed in 18VAC112-20-27.

B. A licensee whose licensure has not been renewed by the first day of the month following the month in which renewal is required shall pay a late fee as prescribed in 18VAC112-20-27.

C. In order to renew an active license, a licensee shall be required to:

1. Complete a minimum of 160 hours of active practice in the preceding two years; and
2. Comply with continuing competency requirements set forth in 18VAC112-20-131.

18VAC112-20-131. Continued competency requirements for renewal of an active license.

A. In order to renew an active license biennially, a physical therapist or a physical therapist assistant shall complete at least 30 contact hours of continuing learning activities within the two years immediately preceding renewal. In choosing continuing learning activities or courses, the licensee shall consider the following: (i) the need to promote ethical practice, (ii) an appropriate standard of care, (iii) patient safety, (iv) application of new medical technology, (v) appropriate communication with patients, and (vi) knowledge of the changing health care system.

B. To document the required hours, the licensee shall maintain the Continued Competency Activity and Assessment Form that is provided by the board and that shall indicate completion of the following:

1. A minimum of 20 of the contact hours required for physical therapists and 15 of the contact hours required for physical therapist assistants shall be in Type 1 courses. For the purpose of this section, "course" means an organized program of study, classroom experience or similar educational experience that is directly related to the clinical practice of physical therapy and approved or provided by one of the following organizations or any of its components:

- a. The Virginia Physical Therapy Association;
- b. The American Physical Therapy Association;
- c. Local, state, or federal government agencies;
- d. Regionally accredited colleges and universities;
- e. Health care organizations accredited by a national accrediting organization granted authority by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to assure compliance with Medicare conditions of participation;
- f. The American Medical Association - Category I Continuing Medical Education course;
- g. The National Athletic Trainers' Association; or
- h. The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy.

2. No more than 10 of the contact hours required for physical therapists and 15 of the contact hours required for physical therapist assistants may be Type 2 activities or courses, which may or may not be offered by an approved organization but which shall be related to the clinical practice of physical therapy. Type 2 activities may include consultation with colleagues, independent study, and research or writing on subjects related to practice. Up to two of the Type 2 continuing education hours may be satisfied through delivery of physical therapy services, without compensation, to low-income individuals receiving services through a local health department or a free clinic organized in whole or primarily for the delivery of health services. Up to two of the Type 2 continuing education hours may be satisfied by attendance at a meeting of the board or disciplinary proceeding conducted by the board.

3. Documentation of specialty certification by the American Physical Therapy Association may be provided as evidence of completion of continuing competency requirements for the biennium in which initial certification or recertification occurs.

4. Documentation of graduation from a transitional doctor of physical therapy program may be provided as evidence of completion of continuing competency requirements for the biennium in which the physical therapist was awarded the degree.

5. A physical therapist who can document that he attained at least Level 2 on the FSBPT assessment tool may receive five hours of Type 1 credit for the biennium in which the assessment tool was taken. A physical therapist who can document that he attained at least Level 3 or 4 on the FSBPT assessment tool may receive 10 hours of Type 1 credit for the biennium in which the assessment tool was taken. Continuing competency credit shall only be granted for the FSBPT assessment tool once every four years.

C. A licensee shall be exempt from the continuing competency requirements for the first biennial renewal following the date of initial licensure by examination in Virginia.

D. The licensee shall retain his records on the completed form with all supporting documentation for a period of four years following the renewal of an active license.

E. The licensees selected in a random audit conducted by the board shall provide the completed Continued Competency Activity and Assessment Form and all supporting documentation within 30 days of receiving notification of the audit.

F. Failure to comply with these requirements may subject the licensee to disciplinary action by the board.

G. The board may grant an extension of the deadline for continuing competency requirements for up to one year for good cause shown upon a written request from the licensee prior to the renewal date.

H. The board may grant an exemption for all or part of the requirements for circumstances beyond the control of the licensee, such as temporary disability, mandatory military service, or officially declared disasters.

18VAC112-20-135. Inactive license.

A. A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant who holds a current, unrestricted license in Virginia shall, upon a request on the renewal application and submission of the required renewal fee of \$70 for a physical therapist and \$35 for a physical therapist assistant, be issued an inactive license.

1. The holder of an inactive license shall not be required to meet active practice requirements.

2. An inactive licensee shall not be entitled to perform any act requiring a license to practice physical therapy in Virginia.

B. A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant who holds an inactive license may reactivate his license by:

1. Paying the difference between the renewal fee for an inactive license and that of an active license for the biennium in which the license is being reactivated;

2. Providing proof of 320 active practice hours in another jurisdiction within the four years immediately preceding application for reactivation.

a. If the inactive physical therapist licensee does not meet the requirement for active practice, the license may be reactivated by completing 320 hours in a traineeship that meets requirements prescribed in 18VAC112-20-140 or documenting that he has attained at least Level 2 on the FSBPT assessment tool within the two years preceding application for reactivation of licensure in Virginia and successfully completing 160 hours in a traineeship in accordance with requirements in 18VAC112-20-140.

b. If the inactive physical therapist assistant licensee does not meet the requirement for active practice, the license may be reactivated by completing 320 hours in a traineeship that meets the requirements prescribed in 18VAC112-20-140.

3. Completing the number of continuing competency hours required for the period in which the license has been inactive, not to exceed four years.

18VAC112-20-136. Reinstatement requirements.

A. A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant whose Virginia license is lapsed for two years or less may reinstate his license by payment of the renewal and late fees as set forth in 18VAC112-20-27 and completion of continued competency requirements as set forth in 18VAC112-20-131.

B. A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant whose Virginia license is lapsed for more than two years and who is seeking reinstatement shall:

1. Apply for reinstatement and pay the fee specified in 18VAC112-20-27;

2. Complete the number of continuing competency hours required for the period in which the license has been lapsed, not to exceed four years; and

3. Have actively practiced physical therapy in another jurisdiction for at least 320 hours within the four years immediately preceding applying for reinstatement.

a. If a physical therapist licensee does not meet the requirement for active practice, the license may be reinstated by completing 320 hours in a traineeship that meets the requirements prescribed in 18VAC112-20-140 or documenting that he has attained at least Level 2 on the FSBPT assessment tool within the two years preceding application for licensure in Virginia and successfully completing 160 hours in a traineeship in accordance with requirements in 18VAC112-20-140.

b. If a physical therapist assistant licensee does not meet the requirement for active practice, the license may be reinstated by completing 320 hours in a traineeship that meets the requirements prescribed in 18VAC112-20-140.

18VAC112-20-140. Traineeship required.

A. The traineeship shall be approved by the board, and under the direction and supervision of a licensed physical therapist.

B. Supervision and identification of trainees:

1. There shall be a limit of two physical therapists assigned to provide supervision for each trainee.
2. The supervising physical therapist shall countersign patient documentation (i.e., notes, records, charts) for services provided by a trainee.
3. The trainee shall wear identification designating them as a "physical therapist trainee" or a "physical therapist assistant trainee."

C. Completion of traineeship.

1. The physical therapist supervising the trainee shall submit a report to the board at the end of the required number of hours on forms supplied by the board.
2. If the traineeship is not successfully completed at the end of the required hours, as determined by the supervising physical therapist, the president of the board or his designee shall determine if a new traineeship shall commence. If the president of the board determines that a new traineeship shall not commence, then the application for licensure shall be denied.
3. The second traineeship may be served under a different supervising physical therapist and may be served in a different organization than the initial traineeship. If the second traineeship is not successfully completed, as determined by the supervising physical therapist, then the application for licensure shall be denied.

18VAC112-20-150. (Repealed.)

18VAC112-20-151. (Repealed.)

Part IV. Standards of Practice.

18VAC112-20-160. Requirements for patient records.

A. Practitioners shall comply with provisions of § 32.1-127.1:03 of the Code of Virginia related to the confidentiality and disclosure of patient records.

B. Practitioners shall provide patient records to another practitioner or to the patient or his personal representative in a timely manner in accordance with provisions of § 32.1-127.1:03 of the Code of Virginia.

C. Practitioners shall properly manage and keep timely, accurate, legible and complete patient records.

D. Practitioners who are employed by a health care institution, school system or other entity, in which the individual practitioner does not own or maintain his own records, shall maintain patient records in accordance with the policies and procedures of the employing entity.

E. Practitioners who are self-employed or employed by an entity in which the individual practitioner does own and is responsible for patient records shall:

1. Maintain a patient record for a minimum of six years following the last patient encounter with the following exceptions:

a. Records of a minor child shall be maintained until the child reaches the age of 18 or becomes emancipated, with a minimum time for record retention of six years from the last patient encounter regardless of the age of the child;

b. Records that have previously been transferred to another practitioner or health care provider or provided to the patient or his personal representative; or

c. Records that are required by contractual obligation or federal law may need to be maintained for a longer period of time.

2. From March 30, 2010, post information or in some manner inform all patients concerning the time frame for record retention and destruction. Patient records shall only be destroyed in a manner that protects patient confidentiality, such as by incineration or shredding.

F. When a practitioner is closing, selling or relocating his practice, he shall meet the requirements of § 54.1-2405 of the Code of Virginia for giving notice that copies of records can be sent to any like-regulated provider of the patient's choice or provided to the patient.

18VAC112-20-170. Confidentiality and practitioner-patient communication.

A. A practitioner shall not willfully or negligently breach the confidentiality between a practitioner and a patient. A breach of confidentiality that is required or permitted by applicable law or beyond the control of the practitioner shall not be considered negligent or willful.

B. Communication with patients.

1. Except as provided in § 32.1-127.1:03 F of the Code of Virginia, a practitioner shall accurately present information to a patient or his legally authorized representative in understandable terms and encourage participation in decisions regarding the patient's care.

2. A practitioner shall not deliberately make a false or misleading statement regarding the practitioner's skill or the efficacy or value of a treatment or procedure provided or directed by the practitioner in the treatment of any disease or condition.

3. Before any invasive procedure is performed, informed consent shall be obtained from the patient and documented in accordance with the policies of the health care entity. Practitioners shall inform patients of the risks, benefits, and alternatives of the recommended invasive procedure that a reasonably prudent practitioner in similar practice in Virginia would tell a patient. In the instance of a minor or a patient who is incapable of making an informed decision on his own behalf or is incapable of communicating such a decision due to a physical or mental disorder, the legally authorized person available to give consent shall be informed and the consent documented.

4. Practitioners shall adhere to requirements of § 32.1-162.18 of the Code of Virginia for obtaining informed consent from patients prior to involving them as subjects in human research with the exception of retrospective chart reviews.

C. Termination of the practitioner/patient relationship.

1. The practitioner or the patient may terminate the relationship. In either case, the practitioner shall make the patient record available, except in situations where denial of access is allowed by law.

2. A practitioner shall not terminate the relationship or make his services unavailable without documented notice to the patient that allows for a reasonable time to obtain the services of another practitioner.

18VAC112-20-180. Practitioner responsibility.

A. A practitioner shall not:

1. Perform procedures or techniques that are outside the scope of his practice or for which he is not trained and individually competent;

2. Knowingly allow persons under his supervision to jeopardize patient safety or provide patient care outside of such person's scope of practice or area of responsibility. Practitioners shall delegate patient care only to persons who are properly trained and supervised;

3. Engage in an egregious pattern of disruptive behavior or interaction in a health care setting that interferes with patient care or could reasonably be expected to adversely impact the quality of care rendered to a patient; or

4. Exploit the practitioner/patient relationship for personal gain.

B. A practitioner shall not knowingly and willfully solicit or receive any remuneration, directly or indirectly, in return for referring an individual to a facility or institution as defined in § 37.2-100 of the Code of Virginia, or hospital as defined in § 32.1-123 of the Code of Virginia.

Remuneration shall be defined as compensation, received in cash or in kind, but shall not include any payments, business arrangements, or payment practices allowed by Title 42, § 1320a-7b(b) of the United States Code, as amended, or any regulations promulgated thereto.

C. A practitioner shall not willfully refuse to provide information or records as requested or required by the board or its representative pursuant to an investigation or to the enforcement of a statute or regulation.

D. A practitioner shall report any disciplinary action taken by a physical therapy regulatory board in another jurisdiction within 30 days of final action.

18VAC112-20-190. Sexual contact.

A. For purposes of § 54.1-3483 (10) of the Code of Virginia and this section, sexual contact includes, but is not limited to, sexual behavior or verbal or physical behavior that:

1. May reasonably be interpreted as intended for the sexual arousal or gratification of the practitioner, the patient, or both; or
2. May reasonably be interpreted as romantic involvement with a patient regardless of whether such involvement occurs in the professional setting or outside of it.

B. Sexual contact with a patient.

1. The determination of when a person is a patient for purposes of § 54.1-3483 (10) of the Code of Virginia is made on a case-by-case basis with consideration given to the nature, extent, and context of the professional relationship between the practitioner and the person. The fact that a person is not actively receiving treatment or professional services from a practitioner is not determinative of this issue. A person is presumed to remain a patient until the patient-practitioner relationship is terminated.

2. The consent to, initiation of, or participation in sexual behavior or involvement with a practitioner by a patient does not change the nature of the conduct nor negate the statutory prohibition.

C. Sexual contact between a practitioner and a former patient. Sexual contact between a practitioner and a former patient after termination of the practitioner-patient relationship may still constitute unprofessional conduct if the sexual contact is a result of the exploitation of trust, knowledge, or influence of emotions derived from the professional relationship.

D. Sexual contact between a practitioner and a key third party shall constitute unprofessional conduct if the sexual contact is a result of the exploitation of trust, knowledge or influence derived from the professional relationship or if the contact has had or is likely to have an adverse effect on patient care. For purposes of this section, key third party of a patient shall mean spouse or partner, parent or child, guardian, or legal representative of the patient.

E. Sexual contact between a supervisor and a trainee shall constitute unprofessional conduct if the sexual contact is a result of the exploitation of trust, knowledge or influence derived from the professional relationship or if the contact has had or is likely to have an adverse effect on patient care.

18VAC112-20-200. Advertising ethics.

A. Any statement specifying a fee, whether standard, discounted or free, for professional services that does not include the cost of all related procedures, services and products which, to a substantial likelihood, will be necessary for the completion of the advertised service as it would be understood by an ordinarily prudent person shall be deemed to be deceptive or misleading, or both. Where reasonable disclosure of all relevant variables and considerations is made, a statement of a range of prices for specifically described services shall not be deemed to be deceptive or misleading.

B. Advertising a discounted or free service, examination, or treatment and charging for any additional service, examination, or treatment that is performed as a result of and within 72 hours of the initial office visit in response to such advertisement is unprofessional conduct unless such professional services rendered are as a result of a bona fide emergency. This provision may not be waived by agreement of the patient and the practitioner.

C. Advertisements of discounts shall disclose the full fee that has been discounted. The practitioner shall maintain documented evidence to substantiate the discounted fees and shall make such information available to a consumer upon request.

D. A licensee shall not use the term "board certified" or any similar words or phrase calculated to convey the same meaning in any advertising for his practice unless he holds certification in a clinical specialty issued by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties.

E. A licensee of the board shall not advertise information that is false, misleading, or deceptive. For an advertisement for a single practitioner, it shall be presumed that the practitioner is responsible and accountable for the validity and truthfulness of its content. For an advertisement for a practice in which there is more than one practitioner, the name of the practitioner or practitioners responsible and accountable for the content of the advertisement shall be documented and maintained by the practice for at least two years.

F. Documentation, scientific and otherwise, supporting claims made in an advertisement shall be maintained and available for the board's review for at least two years.