



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

John Baker, PT, NCS, GCS, DScPT
Chair, PT Board of Examiners

What's the Right Thing to Do?

COMAR 10.38.03.02 Standards of Practice states the physical therapist shall "...exercise sound professional judgment in the use of evaluation and treatment procedures; ...provide each patient with adequate treatment time consistent with accepted standards in delivering physical therapy care; ...provide the patient with accurate information...enter into an agreement or employment relationship provided that such agreement or relationship does not impede the physical therapist's exercise of independent judgment in the treatment of a patient or cause the physical therapist to practice physical therapy contrary to the Maryland Physical Therapy Act..."

Excellent clinical physical therapy practice starts with a thorough holistic initial evaluation, coordinating with other caregivers and providers and then ongoing reevaluations to assess how our intervention is working or needs to be modified. We need to take the time to pause and reflect on our patient's needs and how we can best play our role in meeting those needs. For me, I know that resisting the temptation to cram increasingly

more clients into my schedule can be exhausting and may require diplomacy with the powers that be. Insurance payors, agencies, employers, corporations, and fellow clinicians all have their interests that they are advocating for. Sometimes, those voices seem competitive with each other and the needs of our client. So what do you do?

Know the Maryland PT Practice Act. Just go to our website and click on COMAR on the left hand side. You may find it can give you confidence and direction in allocating the time needed to do excellent patient care and documentation. Remember, good documentation is a map to guide good clinical practice.

Stay the Course. I recently participated in a local community sponsored medical and other needs fair in the Frederick fair grounds called Convoy of Hope. There was a PT from the local hospital system giving of her time and energy to passionately and freely give her gifts and skills to the poor by providing wellness and postural education. Alice was inspiring to watch! She helped me get set up in my area and worked to make

sure everyone had what they needed. I thought she was a leader with the organizing group only to learn she was just a medical volunteer like me. She just took the leadership to make sure clinicians and clients were cared for well. I watched her do her presentation with compassion and clinical focus and I was inspired.

It was a refreshing reminder of why we do what we do and a wonderful example to run toward. Keeping passion for our patient's success, strongly advocating for our clients, and giving them the attention we would to our own family members is who we are and why we came into the field.

The healthcare system is in the midst of a sea change that will continue for years to come. It may be a struggle not to become a cynic or disillusioned with all these noted competing stresses and interests. However, Maryland is full of clinician's like Alice and as we imitate examples like this we will continue to find our way as a profession and navigate these deep waters.

Governor O'Malley signed SB 258/HB 188 into law on May 19 in a ceremony at the State House. In attendance were retiring Executive Director Ann Tyminski, outgoing Board Chair Shirley Leeper, PTA, and new Board Chair, Dr. John Baker, PT. State Senator Karen Montgomery, who sponsored the bill in the Senate also was present along with her legislative aide Elaine Flanagan. Both were a tremendous help in getting the bill passed. The bill allows licensed physical therapists practicing physical therapy and limited physical therapy to use, but not take, x-rays, allows the Board to send renewal notices by email, and increases the maximum criminal fine for violating the practice act.



From left to right (back row): Executive Director Ann Tyminski, Board Chair Shirley Leeper, PTA, State Senator Karen Montgomery, John Baker, PT, NCS, GCS, DScPT, Legislative Aide Elaine Flanagan

From left to right (front row): Lt. Governor Anthony Brown, State Senator Thomas V. Mike Miller, Senate President Governor Martin O'Malley, State Delegate Michael Busch, Speaker of the House

ANN TYMINSKI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RETIRED JUNE 1, 2011



Ann Tyminski has served as the Board's second Executive Director since November 8, 1989. She submitted her resignation to the Board on February 15, 2011, effective June 1, 2011. She cites that regretfully, the time has come to move on and enjoy a period of years without the pressures of work.

She has obtained an exemption to the current hiring freeze and the Board immediately commenced the search process for a new Executive Director.

Ann explained to the Board that she is proud of all that has been accomplished during her tenure. There have been changes to the Practice Act, such as adding a PTA to the Board, insertion of the requirement that a PT must perform an evaluation of the

physical therapy needs of patients or clients, removal of the requirement to follow the referral of a physician, establishment of the Board as a Special Funded Agency, and numerous changes to regulation. Under her direction, the Board was given the staffing to investigate and prosecute cases efficiently and to track compliance with terms of Orders. She also saw to it that the Board's website was developed. She was the pioneer for 16 health occupations boards in programming for online renewals. The board's offices were moved five times with the 4201 Patterson Avenue Building over the years, no small feat in organizing, packing and unpacking of records.

Her interaction and involvement with the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy brought the Maryland board to

national attention, and for years this Board has been a model for other State Boards of Physical Therapy to follow, especially in customer service, ease of licensure, and strong disciplinary actions.

She visited PT and PTA programs through the state annually. She was staff to Board committees and Task Forces through the years. She strove to keep the administration of the Board organized and timely in its customer service.

This year has been especially hard administratively with the voluntary separation program that found the board losing its Office Secretary III position and its Licensing Administrator position. Its compliance officer/investigator position will be vacant as of June 1, 2011 due to the resignation of Ernest Bures.



Among those present to celebrate Ann's Retirement were: Carol Zahnecker, former Bd member, and host, Dennis Klima, Master of Ceremonies, Chuck Dilla, former Bd Chair and keynote speaker, Mindy Sacks, PTA, former Bd Chair, Marge Rodgers, PT former Bd Chair, Shirley Leeper PTA, Former Bd Chair, John Baker, PT, newly elected Bd Chair, Lois Mizell, PT, Bd member, Lois Rosedom-Boyd, Bd member and husband Jesse, Rhea Cohn, PT, Bd. member, Donald Novak, PT, Bd member, John Shober, former Bd. member, Carolyn Chanoski, PT, APTA President, Ed Lyons, Ernie Bures, former compliance manager, and wife Ann, Judy Schank, Jill Kuramoto and husband, Linda Beyer, Anne Kinney, Cheryl Gaudin, Susan Cabanero-Johnson PT, and many other friends and family.

GOODBYE TO SHIRLEY LEEPER, PTA, RETIRED CHAIR



Shirley Leeper, PTA served on the Board from 2003-2011. During her tenure, she served as Vice Chair for four years and Chair for this last year. Shirley enjoyed her time on the Board very much and was honored to serve the licensees and citizens of Mary-

land. During her time on the Board, Shirley served on the Legislative Committee, Continuing Education Committee of which she was Chair for several years, and served as the liaison to the APTA Board of Directors for seven years. She also served as alternate delegate for three years and

delegate one year to the annual meeting of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy. Shirley also testified in Annapolis several times and spoke at the PTA schools with Ann Tyminski.

The Journey Ahead

Change seems to be the norm for the day. It is occurring in healthcare and it is occurring on our Board!

Dr John Baker, PT was recently elected as our Board's Chair for the next year. Dr Baker is a past Western District Chairperson for Maryland APTA, is certified in Adult Neurodevelopmental Treatment

(NDT), and is a clinical specialist in both neurological (NCS) and geriatric (GCS) physical therapy. He currently is the CEO of HomeCare Rehab and Nursing, LLC and was appointed to the Board in 2008.

We would like to introduce our new Executive Director, Carlton Curry. Mr Curry is an attorney and was the Deputy Director of the Maryland Legal Services Program (MLSP). Mr Curry provided guidance to agency Secretary and Executive Staff regarding MLSP Programs which provide legal representation through the Children in Need of Assistance Program, the Adult Guardianship

Program and the Court Appointed Attorney Program within the Department of Human Resources. Mr Curry brings experience as a past judicial law clerk. We think he will partner well with the Board to provide focused oversight and new thinking to our Board office and we welcome him!



Kimberly Rotondo, PTA has recently joined the Board as our PTA professional member. She brings welcomed leadership, clinical expertise and well rounded credentials to complement and enrich the current Board makeup. She has a BS in Sports Medicine in 1994, her As-

sociates PTA degree from Baltimore City Community College in 1998, and a Masters of Arts in Leadership and Social Change through the Tai Sophia Institute in Laurel, Maryland. Ms Rotondo currently is employed at Kennedy Krieger Institute International Center for Spinal Cord Injury in Baltimore. We heartily welcome her as a partner in the challenging road ahead.

Dr. Baker recently had a few conversations with the new Maryland Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, Joshua Sharfstein, MD. Two of his top priorities are consumer service and handling emergencies. We are currently conducting a review of these areas and would appreciate your comments. We have tried to make it easy for you and have created a "COMMENTS" tab on our website at www.dhmh.state.md.us/bphte. Click on "comment". Fill in the topic as "Customer Service" and write in the comment section and how we can follow

up with you. It is that easy! The Board will take your comments seriously and respectfully. This new section will be specifically for ways you think the Board can service licensees and the public better. Please send us a note.

We appreciate the opportunity to service the residents and clinicians of Maryland. We take our role as an advocate for public protection relative to the practice of physical therapy seriously and welcome your feedback and constructive comments.

Krystal Lighty, PT is leading our committee on Continued Competency. Expect to hear more on this in the next newsletter.

We currently continue to work on a few other areas. Dr Rhea Cohn, PT is heading our committee on developing regulations for dry needling per Maryland Attorney General's recent opinion providing guidance on the steps necessary and hope to complete them soon.

GOODBYE FROM ERNEST BURES, COMPLIANCE MANAGER/BOARD INVESTIGATOR

I first came to the Board as a contractual investigator in August of 2000 after a long and rewarding law enforcement career. During my tenure of 11 years with the Board of Physical Therapy I not only investigated physical therapy cases but also Nursing Home Administrators, Optometry, Occupational Therapy and assisted with Mortician Board cases. I found the investigative part of the job to be very rewarding and enjoyed working with Board members and the Office of the Attorney General. I can hold my head high and say that I approached each and every investigation with an open mind.



My greatest reward has been the many friendships that I have developed throughout the years.

In saying farewell, I will miss all of the good times but not the workload. During my tour we were able to create several computer programs to aid us with monitoring the case load along with Board Orders. Investigator John Bull will be stepping up and taking my place. He has a law enforcement background along with excellent computer skills and I have no doubt he will only improve our present programs.

So as I say farewell I have one thought in mind. Never give up your profession or your core values. Continue to enforce the Board's Regulations and hold those accountable who bring discredit upon such a worthy profession. Many before you have worked very hard to make physical therapy the honorable profession that it is today. Continue to support the Board, the Federation and the A.P.T.A. So, as General Douglas MacArthur said in his farewell address to Congress, "Old soldiers never die they just fade away and like the old soldier that I am I will just fade away". **Farewell!**

Unit #93
Board of Physical Therapy
4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

Board Meetings

January 18, 2011	May 17, 2011	September 20, 2011
February 15, 2011	June 21, 2011	October 18, 2011
March 15, 2011	July 19, 2011	November 15, 2011
April 19, 2011	August 16, 2011	December 20, 2011

The Open Session of the Board meeting is open to the public

The meetings are held at
4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, Md. 21215
Room #110 at 1:00 p.m.



PT NEWS

A Publication of The Maryland Board of Physical Therapy

4201 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, MD 21215 410-764-4752 Fax: 410-358-1183 Website: dhmh.state.md.us/bphte

2010 Disciplinary Actions

Entire Final Orders and Consent Orders can be viewed on our website at: www.dhmh.state.md.us/bphte Under Disciplinary Actions. Please note that the Orders can be modified by action of the Board.



Jeffrey Eades Maupin, PT #22136

Date of Order (12-21-2010)
Summary Suspension

Ricardo Johnson, PTA, #A3330

Date of Order (11/16/2010)
Modification of terms of Probation

Pamela West, PT, #15422

Date of Order (11/19/2010)
Summary suspension

Peter Backe, PT #17348

Date of Order (11/16/2010)
Probation for at least two years

Kristina L. Garcia, PTA, #A2749

Date of Order (7/20/2010)
Suspended for one year

Joseph J. Nichols, PT, #18065

Date of Order (5/18/2010)
Reprimand, fine \$500

Robert Boyle, PT #19315

Removed from probation effective (4/20/2010)
License is active and in good standing

Mary Carter-Rucker, PTA #A1222

Date of Order (4/20/2010)
Revocation for a minimum of four years

Emma Quitain Dapul, PT, #19078

Date of Order (3/16/2010)
One year Probationary period

Edward Muir, PT #21514

Removed from probation
Effective (4/20/2010). License is active and in good standing

Tejal Mukeshh Sanghvi, PT #21350

Date of Order (4/20/2010)
Surrender of license

Stephen Smith, PT #20664

Date of Order (2/16/2010)
Reprimand