

ARTICLE 10**PHYSICAL THERAPY PRACTICE**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 148.65, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Student physical therapist.** "Student physical therapist" means a person in a professional educational program, approved by the board under section 148.705, who is satisfying supervised clinical education requirements by performing physical therapy under the on-site direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist. ~~"On-site supervision" means the physical therapist is easily available for instruction to the student physical therapist. The physical therapist shall have direct contact with the patient during at least every second treatment session by the student physical therapist.~~ "Direct supervision" means that the physical therapist is physically present and immediately available for supervision. Telecommunications, ~~except within the facility,~~ does not meet the requirement of ~~on-site direct~~ supervision.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 148.65, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Student physical therapist assistant.** "Student physical therapist assistant" means a person in a physical therapist assistant educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) or a recognized comparable national accrediting agency approved by the board. The student physical therapist assistant, under the direct supervision of the physical therapist, or the direct supervision of the physical therapist and physical therapist assistant team, performs physical therapy interventions and assists with coordination, communication, documentation, and patient-client-related instruction. "Direct supervision" means the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant when supervising a student physical therapist assistant as part of a physical therapist and physical therapist assistant team is physically present and

immediately available to provide instruction to the student physical therapist assistant.

97.1 Telecommunications does not meet the requirement of direct supervision.

97.2 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 148.706, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

97.3 Subdivision 1. **Supervision.** (a) Every physical therapist who uses the services of a
97.4 physical therapist assistant or physical therapy aide for the purpose of assisting in the practice
97.5 of physical therapy is responsible for functions performed by the assistant or aide while
97.6 engaged in such assistance. The physical therapist shall ~~delegate~~ direct duties to the physical
97.7 therapist assistant and assign tasks to the physical therapy aide in accordance with subdivision
97.8 2. ~~Physical therapists who instruct student physical therapists and student physical therapist~~
97.9 ~~assistants are responsible for the functions performed by the students and shall supervise~~
97.10 ~~the students as provided under section 148.65, subdivisions 5 and 6. A licensed physical~~
97.11 ~~therapist may supervise no more than two physical therapist assistants at any time.~~

97.12 (b) A licensed physical therapist may supervise no more than two physical therapist
97.13 assistants at any time. A physical therapist supervising physical therapist assistants is not
97.14 required to be on site, but must be easily available by telecommunications.

97.15 (c) Physical therapists who instruct student physical therapists and student physical
97.16 therapist assistants are responsible for the functions performed by the students and shall
97.17 supervise the students as provided under section 148.65, subdivisions 5 and 6. A physical
97.18 therapist supervising a student physical therapist must have direct contact with the patient
97.19 during at least every second treatment session by the student physical therapist. A physical
97.20 therapist or physical therapist assistant as part of a physical therapist and physical therapist
97.21 assistant team who is supervising a student physical therapist assistant must have direct
97.22 contact with the patient during at least every second treatment session by the student physical
97.23 therapist assistant.

97.24 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 148.706, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

97.25 Subd. 2. **~~Delegation~~ Direction of duties.** The physical therapist ~~may delegate~~ is
97.26 authorized to direct patient treatment procedures only to a physical therapist assistant who
97.27 has sufficient didactic and clinical preparation. The physical therapist may not ~~delegate~~
97.28 direct the following activities to ~~the~~ a physical therapist assistant or to other supportive
97.29 personnel: initial patient examination and evaluation, ~~treatment planning, initial treatment,~~
97.30 ~~change of treatment, development and modification of the plan of care,~~ and initial or final
97.31 documentation.

98.1 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 148.706, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

98.2 Subd. 3. **Observation of and collaboration with physical therapist assistants.** When
98.3 a physical therapist directs components of a patient's treatment ~~are delegated~~ to a physical
98.4 therapist assistant, a physical therapist must ~~provide on-site observation of the treatment~~
98.5 ~~and documentation of its appropriateness at least every six treatment sessions. The physical~~
98.6 ~~therapist is not required to be on site, but must be easily available by telecommunications.~~
98.7 do the following at least every six treatment sessions that the physical therapist assistant
98.8 provides services:

98.9 (1) observe a portion of the patient treatment session with the physical therapist assistant,
98.10 either in person or remotely via telehealth; and

98.11 (2) document a collaborative discussion with the physical therapist assistant and the
98.12 continued appropriateness of the plan of care.