

Part 4

Practice of Physical Therapy

58-24b-401 Authority and ethical standards of a licensed physical therapist and licensed physical therapist assistant -- Function of a physical therapy aide.

- (1) A licensed physical therapist:
 - (a) is fully authorized to practice physical therapy; and
 - (b) shall adhere to the standards of ethics described in:
 - (i) the American Physical Therapy Association's Code of Ethics and Guide for Professional Conduct; and
 - (ii) rule.
- (2) A licensed physical therapist assistant:
 - (a) is authorized to practice physical therapy:
 - (i) under the on-site supervision or general supervision of a licensed physical therapist; and
 - (ii) within the scope of practice of a licensed physical therapist assistant, as described in this chapter and by rule;
 - (b) shall adhere to the standards of ethics described in:
 - (i) the American Physical Therapy Association's Code of Ethics and Guide for Professional Conduct; and
 - (ii) rule; and
 - (c) may not be supervised by any person other than a licensed physical therapist.
- (3)
 - (a) A physical therapy aide may not engage in the practice of physical therapy.
 - (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (3)(a), a physical therapy aide may provide routine assistance to:
 - (i) a licensed physical therapist while the licensed physical therapist engages in the practice of physical therapy, if the physical therapy aide is under the on-site supervision of the licensed physical therapist; or
 - (ii) a licensed physical therapist assistant while the licensed physical therapist assistant engages in the practice of physical therapy, within the scope of the licensed physical therapist assistant's license, if the physical therapy aide is:
 - (A) under the general or on-site supervision of a licensed physical therapist; and
 - (B) under the on-site supervision of the licensed physical therapist assistant.

Enacted by Chapter 220, 2009 General Session

58-24b-402 Patient care and management.

- (1) A licensed physical therapist shall:
 - (a) manage the physical therapy of a patient under the licensed physical therapist's care;
 - (b) perform the initial evaluation and documentation for each patient;
 - (c) perform periodic reevaluation and documentation for each patient;
 - (d) perform a physical therapy intervention that requires immediate and continuous evaluation throughout the intervention;
 - (e) perform on a patient all therapeutic intervention that is outside of the scope of practice of a licensed physical therapist assistant or a physical therapy aide;
 - (f) determine the therapeutic intervention a licensed physical therapist assistant performs while under the licensed physical therapist's on-site supervision or while the licensed physical therapist is immediately available in person, by telephone, or by electronic communication

- to ensure that the therapeutic intervention is safe, effective, efficient, and within the scope of practice of the licensed physical therapist assistant;
 - (g) conduct the discharge of each patient and document each patient's response to therapeutic intervention at the time of discharge; and
 - (h) provide accurate documentation of the billing and services provided.
- (2) A licensed physical therapist assistant or a physical therapy aide may not:
- (a) perform a physical therapy evaluation or assessment;
 - (b) identify or label a physical impairment or injury;
 - (c) design a plan of care for a patient;
 - (d) perform the sharp selective debridement component of wound management; or
 - (e) perform high-velocity thrust joint mobilization.
- (3) A licensed physical therapy aide may not perform or assist in any joint mobilization component of manual therapy except:
- (a) a simple joint distraction technique or stretching; or
 - (b) a stretch or a mobilization that is a part of a home exercise program.

Amended by Chapter 96, 2026 General Session

58-24b-403 Administration of a prescription drug -- Ordering laboratory testing -- Reporting laboratory results -- Referral.

- (1) A licensed physical therapist may purchase, store, and administer topical and aerosol medications that require a prescription as provided in this section.
- (2) A licensed physical therapist may purchase, store, and administer:
 - (a) a topical medication for wound care and for musculoskeletal treatment, using iontophoresis or phonophoresis; and
 - (b) an aerosol medication for pulmonary hygiene in an institutional setting, if a licensed respiratory therapist is not available within a 10 mile radius of the institution.
- (3) A licensed physical therapist shall purchase, store, or administer a medication described in this section in accordance with a written prescription issued by a practitioner who is licensed to prescribe that medication.
- (4) This section does not authorize a licensed physical therapist to dispense a prescription drug.

Amended by Chapter 96, 2026 General Session

58-24b-404 Supervision of a licensed physical therapist assistant or a physical therapy aide.

The division shall make rules that describe the circumstances under which general supervision or on-site supervision of a physical therapist assistant or a physical therapy aide is required.

Enacted by Chapter 220, 2009 General Session

58-24b-405 Animal physical therapy.

- (1) Subject to Subsection 58-28-307(12)(b), a licensed physical therapist may practice animal physical therapy if the licensed physical therapist completes at least 100 hours of animal physical therapy training and education, which shall include:
 - (a) 50 hours of on-the-job training under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian;
 - (b) completion of a quadruped anatomy course; and
 - (c) continuing education for the required hours remaining.

- (2) Subject to Subsection 58-28-307(12)(b), a licensed physical therapist assistant may practice animal physical therapy, within the scope of the licensed physical therapist assistant's practice, if the licensed physical therapist assistant:
- (a) is under the on-site supervision or general supervision of a physical therapist who has complied with the requirements of Subsection (1); and
 - (b) completes at least 100 hours of animal physical therapy training and education, which shall include:
 - (i) 50 hours of on-the-job training under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian;
 - (ii) completion of a quadruped anatomy course; and
 - (iii) continuing education for the required hours remaining.

Enacted by Chapter 220, 2009 General Session