

ENROLLED ACT NO. 56, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIFTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2003 GENERAL SESSION

AN ACT relating to physical therapy; amending the requirement that physical therapy be provided only under authority of specified health care providers; requiring consultations, referrals and disclosures as specified; and providing for an effective date.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

**Section 1.** W.S. 33-25-102(c) and by creating a new subsection (e) and 33-25-111(a) by creating a new paragraph (xii) are amended to read:

**33-25-102. Practice of physical therapy; license required; exceptions; false representations.**

(c) ~~No person shall~~ Except as provided in this subsection, a physical therapist with a master's degree, or a bachelor's degree with five (5) years of clinical experience may initiate physical therapy treatment ~~unless under the authority or supervision of a physician or pursuant to~~ for a new or recurring injury with or without a prescription from a licensed physician including doctor of osteopathy, podiatrist, advanced practitioner of nursing, ~~or~~ dentist, chiropractor or physician assistant. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to preclude a physical therapist from treating a chronic or recurring injury or condition without a prescription, provided that the patient or client was previously diagnosed and prescribed physical therapy treatment within the previous year by a health care provider identified in this subsection and the treatment is directly related to the original prescribed care. Without a prescription, a physical therapist is prohibited from initiating physical therapy treatment for children under the age of twelve (12) years, unless the child is to receive physical therapy

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treatment under an individualized education program or an individualized family services plan. A physical therapist shall refer the patient or client to a licensed physician including doctor of osteopathy, podiatrist, advanced practitioner of nursing, dentist, chiropractor or physician assistant, as appropriate, when:

(i) The physical therapist has reasonable cause to believe symptoms or conditions are present that require services beyond the scope of physical therapy practice;

(ii) Physical therapy is contraindicated; or

(iii) Except for patients or clients participating in general exercise or fitness programs or receiving physical therapy services under an individualized education program or an individualized family services plan, the patient or client has received physical therapy services without a prescription for twelve (12) visits or for a thirty (30) day period, whichever occurs earlier, and further services may be necessary.

(e) Prior to any physical therapy service, the patient or client shall be directed to posted information and delivered a handout explaining:

(i) The education level and degrees held by the treating physical therapist;

(ii) That coverage may not be available through governmental or worker's compensation programs unless prescribed by a physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner; and

(iii) That the patient's or client's insurance may not cover the service.

ORIGINAL HOUSE  
BILL NO. 0155

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**33-25-111. Denial, suspension or revocation of  
license or registration.**

(a) The board may limit the scope of practice allowed by the license or registration, or condition the retention of a license or registration upon successful completion of any reasonable requirement, or may refuse to license or register any applicant or may refuse to renew the license or registration of any person or may suspend or revoke the license or registration of any individual, who:

(xii) Fails to refer a patient or client or post information as required by W.S. 33-25-102(c) and (e).

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**Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2003.

(END)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

TIME APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this act originated in the House.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk