



# AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ACADEMIC PHYSICAL THERAPY

AC-6-21

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**PROPOSED BY:** Scott Davis, Marshall University

**TITLE: Endorsement of the Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy - Pain Special Interest Group's Pain Education Manual.**

**Move that:** The American Council of Academic Physical Therapy shall endorse and promote the Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy - Pain Special Interest Group's Pain Education Manual for Physical Therapist Professional Degree Programs (PEM) as a resource and companion to the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) Curriculum Outline on Pain for Physical Therapy.

**SUPPORT STATEMENT:**

The International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) Curriculum Outline on Pain for Physical Therapy was endorsed by the APTA House of Delegates in 2018 through RC 43-18. The IASP Curriculum Outline provides principles, learning outcomes, competency domains, and references. This resource has been helpful to academic programs in developing and revising entry-level physical therapist curricula; however, the outline may not provide programs with sufficient detail and depth to optimally develop contemporary pain curricula. The APTA Pain Management Group supported and encouraged the development of the PEM to help meet the charge of the HOD motion RC 43-18. In 2019, the Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy (AOPT) organized the Pain Education Committee. The AOPT and the Pain Special Interest Group (SIG), in collaboration with IASP and ACAPT, identified individuals to serve on the committee. It was agreed that the AOPT Pain SIG should take the lead in developing a resource document for entry-level academic programs that align with modern pain theory, the IASP Outline, and core competencies for the education of pain. The committee developed the Pain Education Manual for Physical Therapist Professional Degree Programs (PEM) to fill the gaps in the IASP Curriculum Outline and to provide programs and faculty with additional resources. The PEM provides eight (8) didactic content dimensions. For each content dimension, the PEM provides learning domains and levels, sample objectives, primary content, sample course learning activities/assessments, examples of where the content domains may be delivered within a DPT curriculum, resources, and references. The PEM also provides alignment with IASP domains and core competencies and current CAPTE Standards and Required Elements. The Pain Education Manual aligns well with the ACAPT's vision statement by promoting excellence in one aspect of entry-level physical therapist education. The endorsement and promotion of the PEM by ACAPT will encourage programs to use the best clinical and pedagogical evidence to deliver and assess student learning relative to pain. As "the voice" for physical therapist education, ACAPT is ideally positioned to promote excellence and advance physical therapy education. The link to the PEM can be found here:

[https://www.orthopt.org/uploads/content\\_files/files/Pain\\_Manual\\_Draft\\_FINAL\\_6.25.2021\\_%281%29.pdf](https://www.orthopt.org/uploads/content_files/files/Pain_Manual_Draft_FINAL_6.25.2021_%281%29.pdf)

**CURRENT POSITION/STANDARD/GUIDELINE/POLICY/PROCEDURE:**

There are currently no positions, standards, guidelines, or policy/procedures on this issue.



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### **RELATED POSITION/STANDARD/GUIDELINE/POLICY/PROCEDURE:**

There is an APTA HOD motion RC 43-18<sup>5</sup> Charge: Endorsement and Integration of the International Association for the Study of Pain Curriculum Outline on Pain for Physical Therapy that was passed by the HOD in 2018. ***“That the American Physical Therapy Association endorse and promote integration of the International Association for the Study of Pain Curriculum Outline on Pain for Physical Therapy into education, practice, and research initiatives, where feasible.”***