

A 90 – Minute Audio Conference

Presented by the Aquatic Physical Therapy Section of the American Physical Therapy Association

Wednesday, August 4, 2010

9:00 am – 10:30 am (Pacific Time) ** 10:00 am – 11:30 am (Mountain Time)

11:00 am – 12:30 pm (Central Time) ** 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm (Eastern Time)

Practice Management Strategies: Documentation, Coding and Billing for Aquatic Physical Therapy

Speaker: Helene Fearon, PT

Overview of Program Content:

Payment policy is changing as quickly as it is implemented, what seems to be on a daily basis. All rehab settings, inpatient as well as outpatient, are challenged by this difficult reimbursement environment. This section-sponsored audio conference includes topics covering practice management scenarios specific to aquatic physical therapy clinical services. Content will cover payment policy, regulation and compliance issues related to the current billing of and payment for aquatic physical therapy. This content will be in the context of clinical scenarios and how to best report the clinical service to a third party to support medical necessity as well as best reflect the clinician's clinical decision making.

Who Should Attend?

Physical Therapists, Physical Therapist Assistants, Front Office Administrators, Practice Managers, and Billers

Course/Learner Objectives:

This audio conference will provide content and resources for the outpatient rehab practice that provides aquatic physical therapy. To be delivered in an organized manner to facilitate practice and payment in this challenging environment. The course content begins with a brief overview of the environment in terms of the what, where and how of aquatic therapy utilization, review and policy. The course also includes specific information regarding coding and documentation in the OP setting for aquatic therapy, and becoming efficient and effective with documentation of these clinical services. There will be time for Q & A following the one hour presentation of content.

Upon Completion, Participants will be able to:

- Description of the current issues in the federal legislative, and regulatory arena and their impact on delivery, documentation, and coding requirements for rehabilitation in 2010 and beyond;
- Understand the most significant risk areas for audits, specific to out-patient rehabilitation and provision of aquatic therapy services and how to best address through documentation both clinically and administratively;
- Learn the definition of Medical Necessity used by most third party payers and how to best

apply to the reporting of services in your practice environment;

- Identify areas of risk in coding from a compliance perspective and learn documentation tips important in support of the use of codes to describe aquatic physical therapy services;
- Be able to appropriately document and report ICD-9 codes for OP rehabilitation services and begin to learn some basics regarding the transition to ICD-10; and
- Review the elements of documentation that focus on describing function, from evaluation through discharge.

Presenter: Helene M. Fearon, PT

Helene Fearon is a graduate of Marquette University's Physical Therapy program. She is co-owner of Fearon Physical Therapy, a private practice in Phoenix, Arizona since 1986 that specializes in orthopedic manual therapy. She is also a partner in Fearon & Levine Consulting, which includes participating in the development of OptimisPT, an end to end EMR solution for rehabilitation providers that includes documentation, billing and practice management. She is president of and shareholder in a physical therapist owned provider network with over 130 private practices involved as members. In addition, she draws on her background of having been involved in the development and operation of three Medicare-Certified Rehab Agencies, a home care contracting business and two specialty practices delivering work injury management services.

Ms. Fearon has been involved over the past 17 years representing physical therapists in the American Medical Association's Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) process with involvement in the development, and implementation of CPT codes used to describe and pay for physical therapy services across all OP settings. In this role she frequently is called upon for her expertise in development of payment policy and training materials utilizing these CPT codes. As part of her consulting practice she works with physical therapists, OP healthcare practice and facility administrators, third party payers, regulatory agencies, healthcare attorneys, and other health care practitioners to provide education in the areas of documentation of rehab services, appropriate utilization and data management, and the coding and billing of clinical services.

Ms. Fearon is involved in the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) both at the state and national level. Her activities in the APTA include serving on the Board of Directors of the Private Practice Section and is currently chair of the Section's Government Affairs Committee. She is active as a member of the Arizona Chapter of the APTA and its' Payer Relations committee. Ms. Fearon also served as a governor appointee to the State of

Arizona's Board of Physical Therapy Licensure from 1999 - 2007, and served as president of this regulatory board from 2003 - 2007.

PROGRAM CONTENT REFERENCES:

1. AMA CPT 2010
2. HCPCS Level II, Medicare Codes 2010
3. Medicare RBRVS: The Physician's Guide, 2010
4. Coding and Payment Guide for the Physical Therapist, Ingenix, /APTA , 2010
5. Documentation for Rehabilitation: A Guide to Clinical Decision Making, L. Quinn, J. Gordon; January 2010, Elsevier
6. ICD-9-CM, Vols. 1-2
7. CMS Benefit Policy Manual
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Manuals/downloads/bp102c15.pdf>
8. CMS Program Integrity Manual
9. CMS Claims Processing Manual
10. International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF); World Health Organization
11. www.APTA.org
12. <http://www.CMS.hhs.gov/therapyservices/>
13. Guide to Physical Therapist Practice, APTA
14. Defensible Documentation, APT

Please see the registration form on the next page

Registration Form
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THREE SIMPLE WAYS TO REGISTER

BE SURE TO INCLUDE ALL INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW:

1. **Register Secure On-line at www.aquaticpt.org**
2. **Fax** this completed form to (703) 706-8575
3. **Mail** completed form to the Aquatic PT Section Office, PO Box 327, Alexandria, VA 22313-0327

Please register by August 3, 2010 to guarantee that you receive confirmation details and handouts. *

Confirmations with calling instructions will be sent via email.

You must contact us by the session deadline date if you have special needs or require additional assistance or accommodation to participate in this audio conference.

* Please type or print legibly all information below*

PT Practice/Facility Name:

Contact Person:

APTA Membership Number:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone:

Fax:

Email* :

Number of Participants Expected to Attend from your Practice:

Registration Fee Per Location

This fee includes one dial-in connection. Additional fees will be charged if there are multiple dial-ins. Written requests for refunds received on or before August 1, 2010, will receive a 50% refund less a \$50 processing fee. Fees are non-refundable after this date. There are no refunds for no-shows. Special pricing applies for Section members and APTA members. You must provide a valid APTA membership number in order to receive the member rate.

\$149 per call-in (APTA and Aquatic PT Section Member)

\$199 per call-in (APTA Member, Aquatic PT Section Non-Member)

\$249 per call-in (APTA Non-Member)

Check (payable to Aquatic PT Section/APTA VISA MasterCard AMEX

Cardholder's name (print)

Card Number _____/_____/_____/_____ Exp. Date _____

Billing Zip Code _____

Signature _____