**Minutes for GAC meeting 1/8/2019**

Present**:** Ruth, Jon, Ellen, Carol, Kara, Justin

Absent: Bud, Dan

* **CMS releases clarification regarding use of therapy Students in Hospitals:**<http://www.apta.org/Payment/Medicare/Supervision/>

* **Pain Management Best Practices Inter-Agency Task Force draft report:**The Pain Management Best Practices Inter-Agency Task Force (Task Force) is a federal advisory committee established by the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 to propose updates to best practices and issue recommendations that address gaps or inconsistencies for managing chronic and acute pain. The task force is composed of health care providers and patients, as well as federal employees. It is overseen by the US Department of Health and Human Services, in cooperation with the US Department of Veterans Affairs and US Department of Defense. The task force has released its draft report with specific recommendations regarding restorative therapies, including the need for further research and for decreasing barriers to access of care. The draft report also examines clinical best practices and guidelines, approaches to acute and chronic pain management, special populations and conditions, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain. APTA will provide comments, and individuals may submit comments individually via either the website or email using the links below.
Deadline for Comments: **Monday, April 1, 2019**
[Review Draft Report](https://www.hhs.gov/ash/advisory-committees/pain/reports/2018-12-draft-report-on-updates-gaps-inconsistencies-recommendations/index.html)
**Take Action:**[Submit comments online](https://www.regulations.gov/comment?D=HHS-OS-2018-0027-0001) or via email: paintaskforce@hhs.gov | [Submit comments using APTA’s template letter (.doc)](http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/Advocacy/Federal/Legislative_Issues/APTATemplate_CommentLetter.doc)

* **DoD Office of the Secretary Proposed Rule Adding PTAs and OTAs to TRICARE as Authorized Providers:**The US Department of Defense (DoD) has released a proposed rule to add certified or licensed physical therapist assistants (PTAs) and occupational therapy assistants (OTAs) as TRICARE-authorized providers to provide services under the supervision of a TRICARE-authorized physical therapist or occupational therapist in accordance with Medicare’s rules for supervision and qualification when billed under the supervising therapist’s national provider identification (NPI) number. The proposal follows the provisions of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2017 that added PTAs and OTAs as authorized providers under TRICARE. APTA will submit comments. Individuals (members and nonmembers) may submit comments individually using APTA's unique template letter (link below).
Deadline for Comments: **Tuesday, February 19, 2019**
[Review Proposed Rule](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/12/20/2018-27508/tricare-addition-of-physical-therapy-assistants-and-occupational-therapy-assistants-as)
**Take Action:** [Submit comments](https://www.regulations.gov/comment?D=DOD_FRDOC_0001-4511) | [Submit comments using APTA's unique template letter (.doc)](http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/Advocacy/Federal/Legislative_Issues/APTAMemberTemplateLetterTRICAREPTAProposedRule.doc)

**PDPM and PDGM Resources:**

         PDGM and PDPM webinars: Overview

o   PDGM Webinar 1 – Bud, Carol, Ellen, and Kara

o   PDPM Webinar 2 –

         PDGM and PDPM webinars: Clinical perspective

         APTA Learning Center Webinars

o   SNF PDPM: Record in August, conduct live Q&A in September

o   HH PDGM: Record in late November, conduct live Q&A in December

         HH Section, AGPT, and HPA will collaborate on upcoming changes

         All of the webinars will be posted to the various sections’ and APTA webpages

         Ken Miller is interested in the HH Section Practice Committee developing a thrive and survive resource.

**Legislative Update:**

         Hope to see home health bills introduced in 1st quarter of 2019

         They will be posted to the Leg Action Center: Take Action

Next Meeting

2/19/2019

7:30 pm EST