

## **NACDD Convening State and National Partners TA Webinar**

Working with Physical Therapists and Occupational Therapists – Successes, Challenges and Lessons Learned

Wednesday, July 28, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m. ET

### **Webinar Notes and Resources**

- Materials available on the Action on Arthritis website:  
<https://actiononarthritis.chronicdisease.org/monthly-webinars/>
- Meeting Recording:  
[https://chronicdisease.zoom.us/rec/share/6gC1ahdc1SXNB4rQdmnVHYR-KrRhJ6NaA1ma6QH0MfFOflbSBeOCF1tEHfjY\\_5KU.js5JbM6t7NewwjFP](https://chronicdisease.zoom.us/rec/share/6gC1ahdc1SXNB4rQdmnVHYR-KrRhJ6NaA1ma6QH0MfFOflbSBeOCF1tEHfjY_5KU.js5JbM6t7NewwjFP)

### **Panelists:**

- Paige Denison – Sound Generations [paiged@soundgenerations.org](mailto:paiged@soundgenerations.org)
- Kimberly Nowakowski, PT, DPT, MS – Springfield College  
[knowakowski@springfieldcollege.edu](mailto:knowakowski@springfieldcollege.edu)
- Anita Bemis-Dougherty, PT, DPT, MAS – American Physical Therapy Association  
[anitabemis-dougherty@apta.org](mailto:anitabemis-dougherty@apta.org)
- Varleisha D. Gibbs, PhD, OTD, OTR/L – American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. [vgibbs@aota.org](mailto:vgibbs@aota.org)
- Nancy Baker, ScD, MPH, OT, FAOT – American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. [Nancy.Baker@Tufts.edu](mailto:Nancy.Baker@Tufts.edu)

### **Questions:**

Q: Did the PT/OT 99201-99205 & 99211-99215 become time based only like it did for MD/DO/APRN practitioners as of 1/1/21?

A: PTs and OTs cannot bill those CPT codes – Only physicians and physician extenders (RN's, NP, PA's and so on) can bill these codes. Therefore, any changes that have been implemented to these CPT codes would not apply to PT's.

Here are the code definitions:

Codes 99201-99215 are used to report evaluation and management (E/M) services provided in the physician's office or in an outpatient or other ambulatory facility. The Office or Other Outpatient Consultation codes, on the other hand, are specifically designated as consultations. A *consultation* is defined as a service provided by a physician whose opinion or advice regarding E/M of a specific problem is requested by another physician or appropriate source.

Prolonged E/M Services Revisions for 2021

For the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) 2021 code set, the guidelines and code descriptors for the evaluation and management (E/M) office or other outpatient visit services codes (99202-99215) have been significantly revised. The

information included here is provided to raise awareness of the changes to current coding practice for those E/M codes that have been changed. This article reviews the appropriate use of a new, shortened prolonged service(s) code ([99417](#)), the effect on related and unrelated prolonged services codes, and the similarities and differences in the time definitions across the range of prolonged E/M services codes, which will be effective January 1, 2021.

PTs and OTs bill the 9700 series of CPT codes. They have their own evaluation codes (for PT they are 97162, 97162, 97163) and are tiered based on History, Examination, Clinical Presentation, and Clinical Decision Making. And there is a PT re-evaluation code – 97164.

See [link](#) for additional info

## **State Sharing:**

### North Carolina:

- North Carolina developed a [CEU home study and webinar with MAHEC](#). The course “Building a Continuum of Care: Connecting Patients with Evidence-Based Programs in the Community” reached PTs and OTs and other healthcare providers and professionals on counseling and referring to AAEBIs.
- North Carolina presented at the [NC American Physical Therapy Fall Conference in 2019](#) (NCAPTA) and developed [PT and Healthy Aging NC In-Service](#)
- North Carolina plans to present at NCAPTA in Fall 2021

### Utah:

- In November 2020 the Healthy Aging Program staff met with [Anne Thackeray](#), PhD, PT, MPH, Research Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Athletic Training, Department of Population Health Sciences. During that meeting, Anne mentioned they have a health behavior class that integrates patient behavior change. The con to this class is that it is only taught every 1 1/2 to 2 years. In the OT part of the program, there is a student-led Wellness Board where students select projects around the best pathway in clinics to provide OT services. This is where a counseling and referral demonstration project may fit in. Dr. Thackeray shared that there is a class for PTs that is adapting a program called the [Coach2Move](#) for people aged 50 years and older. The program aims to improve self-management and physical activity, which is exactly where a demonstration project or addition to the curriculum on counseling and referring to physical activity would fit in perfectly! COVID put this plan on hold.
- Utah plans to re-engage Anne Thackeray by meeting in August to develop next steps.
- Utah plans to begin conversations with the Physical Therapy and Athletic Training Program at the University of Utah.

## **Resources:**

- Listing of all APTA Chapters and Sections with contact information:  
<https://aptaapps.apta.org//componentconnection/chaptersandsections.aspx?UniqueKey=>
- American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) website:  
<https://www.apta.org/>
- Springfield College WWE Program and Student Coaching Model/Manual -  
<https://springfield.edu/walk-with-ease>
- Consumer Resources for Community Based programs:  
<https://www.choosept.com/resources/detail/community-based-physical-activity-programs-arthrit>
- APTA arthritis specific information:  
<https://www.choosept.com/symptomsconditionsdetail/physical-therapy-guide-to-osteoarthritis>
- Sound Generations website: <https://soundgenerations.org/health-wellness/fitness/>
- EnhanceFitness website: <https://projectenhance.org/enhancefitness/>
- PT-REFER research and project summary:  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6512749/> and  
<https://depts.washington.edu/hprc/projects/pt-refer/>
- PT-REFER Toolkit Overview -  
<https://actiononarthritis.chronicdisease.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/EF-PT-REFER-Toolkit-Overview.pdf>
- WEBINAR recording: Miruna Petrescu-Prahova, PhD, MA Health Promotion Resource Center, University of WA, Paige Denison, Project Enhance at Sound Generations and Susan Buell, Association Director of Health Initiatives YMCA of Pierce and Kitsay Counties discuss the PT-REFER study and Building Community Clinical Linkages with Physical Therapists -  
[https://enhance.soundgenerations.org/EF\\_Building\\_Community\\_Clinical\\_Linkages\\_with\\_Physical\\_Therapists\\_020620.mp4](https://enhance.soundgenerations.org/EF_Building_Community_Clinical_Linkages_with_Physical_Therapists_020620.mp4)
- WEBINAR Recording: Katy Casillas, DPT Rehab Ed and QA at Baycare HealthCare and Summer Cruff, Director of Community Health at the YMCA of Suncoast discuss learnings and next steps from their work together -  
<https://www.ncoa.org/article/maximizing-data-and-partnerships-to-enhance-evidence-based-program-sustainability>
- A recent article in Topics In Geriatric Rehabilitation titled "Clinical-Community Connections: Incorporating Evidence-Based Programs for Improved Patient Outcomes"  
[https://journals.lww.com/topicsingeriatricrehabilitation/Abstract/2021/07000/Clinical\\_Community\\_Connections\\_Incorporating.5.aspx](https://journals.lww.com/topicsingeriatricrehabilitation/Abstract/2021/07000/Clinical_Community_Connections_Incorporating.5.aspx)
- Recent publication: "Remotely Delivered Exercise to Rural Older Adults with Knee Osteoarthritis: A Pilot Study"  
<https://www.preprints.org/manuscript/202107.0433/v1>
- AOTA State Associations: <https://www.aota.org/Advocacy-Policy/State-Policy/State-OT-Associations.aspx>
- American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) website:  
<https://www.aota.org/>

- AOTA arthritis specific information: <https://www.aota.org/About-Occupational-Therapy/Patients-Clients/Adults.aspx> and <https://www.aota.org/-/media/Corporate/Files/AboutOT/Professionals/WhatIsOT/PA/Facts/Arthritis%20fact%20sheet.pdf> and <https://www.aota.org/about-occupational-therapy/patients-clients/adults/arthritis.aspx>
- Carfit Initiative: <https://www.aota.org/Practice/Productive-Aging/Driving/Practitioners/Carfit.aspx>
- NACDD Walk With Ease Materials for Physical Therapists:
  - Decision Aid (Choosing a WWE Format) - [https://chronicdisease.org/resource/resmgr/arthritis\\_council\\_2018\\_records/nacdd\\_tools\\_for\\_success\\_deci.pdf](https://chronicdisease.org/resource/resmgr/arthritis_council_2018_records/nacdd_tools_for_success_deci.pdf)
  - Messaging (Onboarding Clinics and Recruiting Participants) - [https://chronicdisease.org/resource/resmgr/arthritis\\_council\\_2018\\_records/nacdd\\_tools\\_for\\_success\\_mess.pdf](https://chronicdisease.org/resource/resmgr/arthritis_council_2018_records/nacdd_tools_for_success_mess.pdf)
  - Readiness Assessment (Questionnaire) - [https://chronicdisease.org/resource/resmgr/arthritis\\_council\\_2018\\_records/nacdd\\_tools\\_for\\_success\\_read.pdf](https://chronicdisease.org/resource/resmgr/arthritis_council_2018_records/nacdd_tools_for_success_read.pdf)
  - Sample Program Timeline - [https://chronicdisease.org/resource/resmgr/arthritis\\_council\\_2018\\_records/nacdd\\_tools\\_for\\_success\\_time.pdf](https://chronicdisease.org/resource/resmgr/arthritis_council_2018_records/nacdd_tools_for_success_time.pdf)

Please visit the [Action on Arthritis Resource Page](#) for additional PT and OT tools and resources!