

- F. The parties to any proceeding pursuant to this rule shall be the Board and the petitioner. Any other person may seek leave of the Board to intervene in such a proceeding, and leave to intervene will be granted at the sole discretion of the Board. A petition to intervene shall set forth the same matters as are required by Section D of this Rule. Any reference to a "petitioner" in this rule also refers to any person who has been granted leave to intervene by the Board.
- G. Any declaratory order or other order disposing of a petition pursuant to this rule shall constitute agency action subject to judicial review pursuant to the Colorado Administrative Procedures Act at § 24-4-106, C.R.S.

210. Requirements for Physical Therapists to Perform Physical Therapy on Animals

The purpose of this rule is to implement the requirements of § 12-41-103.6(2)(b)(II), C.R.S., regarding the authority of Physical Therapists to treat animals.

- A. A Physical Therapist must have the knowledge, skill, ability and documented competency to perform an act that is within the scope of practice for Physical Therapists.
- B. The Director shall maintain a data base of all Physical Therapists that are qualified pursuant to this rule to practice physical therapy on animals in this state.
- C. All Physical Therapists that choose to practice physical therapy on animals shall provide the Board with such therapist's name, current address, education and qualifications to perform physical therapy on animals for inclusion in the data base referenced in part B of this rule. Information in the data base shall be open to public inspection at all times. Forms for Physical Therapists to provide such information shall be provided by the Board.
- D. A Physical Therapist that desires to perform physical therapy on animals must comply with the following educational requirements:
 - 1. Minimum of 80 contact hours over and above entry-level human physical therapy program course work for non-human animals, to include:
 - a. FOUNDATION/CLINICAL SCIENCES
 - i. Gross and applied non-human animal anatomy/physiology
 - ii. Wound healing and response of tissues to disuse and remobilization in the non-human animal
 - iii. Animal behavior
 - iv. Animal restraint
 - v. Zoonotic and infectious diseases
 - b. EXAMINATION/EVALUATION/PROGNOSIS/PT DIAGNOSIS
 - i. Medical and surgical management of orthopedic, neurological, critically injured, geriatric, arthritic and obese non-human animals
 - ii. Gait and other movement analyses

- c. INTERVENTION/PLAN OF CARE/OUTCOME
 - i. Therapeutic exercise applied to non-human animals
 - ii. Therapeutic modalities
 - iii. Outcome assessment and documentation
 - d. CLINICAL EXPERIENCE
 - i. Documented successful completion of a minimum of 120 hours under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist listed in the data base maintained by DORA to perform physical therapy of animals or a licensed veterinarian.
- E. Prior to performing physical therapy on an animal, the Physical Therapist shall obtain veterinary medical clearance of the animal by a Colorado-licensed Veterinarian and must document such clearance in the animal patient's record.
- F. Veterinary medical clearance means:
- 1. The Veterinarian has previously examined the animal patient and has provided a differential diagnosis if appropriate.
 - 2. The Veterinarian has cleared the animal for physical therapy.
- G. It is expected that the Physical Therapist and the Veterinarian will continue professional collaboration as necessary for the well-being of the animal patient.
- H. Once veterinary medical clearance has been received, the Physical Therapist is responsible for developing the plan of care for the animal patient's physical therapy.
- I. The animal patient's record must include the verbal or written veterinary medical clearance. If verbal clearance is received, the Physical Therapist must document the verbal clearance in the animal patient's record, including the name of the veterinarian, date and time clearance was received.
- J. Complaints against Physical Therapists alleging a violation related to animal physical therapy will be forwarded to the Colorado State Board of Veterinary Medicine for its review and advisory recommendation to the State Physical Therapy Board. The State Physical Therapy Board retains the final authority by statute for decisions related to discipline of any physical therapist.
- 211. Requirements for Physical Therapists to Perform Dry Needling**
- A. Dry needling (also known as Trigger Point Dry Needling) is a physical intervention that uses a filiform needle to stimulate trigger points, diagnose and treat neuromuscular pain and functional movement deficits; is based upon Western medical concepts; requires an examination and diagnosis, and treats specific anatomic entities selected according to physical signs. Dry needling does not include the stimulation of auricular or distal points.
- B. Dry needling as defined pursuant to this rule is within the scope of practice of physical therapy.