

## **Section on Pediatrics Education Summit**

**July 19-20, 2012  
Alexandria, VA**

### **Purpose:**

This Education Summit, sponsored by the Section on Pediatrics, will bring together academic and clinical educators, along with recent graduates and experienced clinicians practicing in pediatric physical therapy to explore, discuss, strategize, and plan for the future of pediatric professional education. Participants will focus their efforts on identified issues related to preparation of professional physical therapy students including clinical education experiences. The emphasis will be on developing recommendations for optimal practices in pediatric professional education and for building evidence to support the effectiveness of academic and clinical education.

### **Rationale:**

The Section on Pediatrics currently has two resources available for academic faculty responsible for delivering professional pediatric education. One is a Compendium of Learning activities on CD-ROM, completed in 2004. The second is a document titled *Pediatric Curriculum Content in Professional Physical Therapist Education: A Cross-Reference for Content, Behavioral Objectives, and Professional Sources*, which was completed in 2008. Despite these efforts, the results of a recent survey identified significant variability across professional physical therapy programs in the provision of pediatric physical therapy education.<sup>1</sup> This variability encompasses the number of laboratory and lecture hours devoted to pediatrics in the curriculum, the number of hours that students spend interacting with children, and the likelihood that a student will have a pediatric clinical experience. It is apparent that students are graduating with a wide variety of knowledge and skills in and exposure to pediatric physical therapy. This may be due in part to a lack of more specific recommendations and insufficient evidence for optimal professional pediatric education practices.

In an effort to address this variability, the authors of the survey recommended that at least 90 hours be devoted to pediatrics within a professional physical therapy curriculum. In addition, the authors suggested that the Section support a consensus conference, with the goal of building agreement regarding the knowledge and skills necessary for an entry-level practitioner. Therefore, this Education Summit will provide a means to gather ideas and evidence in addition to developing and disseminating current best practice recommendations for professional pediatric education. The intent will be to develop materials and documents that support and guide academic faculty members responsible for pediatric content within entry-level physical therapy education programs and to consider how the Section on Pediatrics can best support ongoing generation of scientific evidence in this area. Proceedings from the Summit will serve as a reference for professional physical therapy programs when making decisions about content in this curricular and topical area.

<sup>1</sup> Scheiber J, Goodgold S, Moerchen V, Renec N, Aaron C, Kreger A. A Description of Professional Pediatric Physical Therapy Education. 2011;23(2):201-204.

### **Education Summit Objectives:**

- 1) Recommend optimal pediatric professional physical therapy education practices.
  - a. Total hours
  - b. Lecture/ PBL hours
  - c. Laboratory hours
  - d. Child-contact hours
  - e. Critical/ essential objectives- all students
  - f. Critical/ essential objectives- future pediatric practitioners
  - g. Suggestions- lecture/ PBL content, learning activities, & objectives
  - h. Suggestions- laboratory content, learning activities, & objectives
  - i. Suggestions- child-contact content, learning activities, & objectives
  - j. Suggestions- clinical reasoning content, learning activities, & objectives
  
- 2) Recommend strategies for preparation, development, and support of academic faculty adequately prepared to deliver pediatric professional education.
  
- 3) Summarize traditional, novel, and unique models of delivery of optimal pediatric clinical education experiences.
  
- 4) Recommend strategies for the preparation, development, and support of clinical instructors in pediatric physical therapy.
  
- 5) Suggest research projects and funding priorities to support research aimed at identifying optimal educational practices in pediatric professional education.
  
- 6) Publish conference proceedings based on the work groups and content identified during the Summit.

The format of the Education Summit will include keynote addresses by Drs. Gail Jensen, Suzann Campbell, and Ellen Spake (pending confirmation). In addition, there will be shorter presentations to stimulate brain-storming, involvement of CAPTE and other APTA staff, and focused small and large group discussions where much of the actual "work" of the Summit will occur.

Novice and experienced pediatric physical therapy academic and clinical educators as well as pediatric clinicians are encouraged to apply. Attendees will contribute their expertise in meeting the outlined objectives and gain new knowledge through rich interactions with others. Efforts will be made to ensure that participants represent a variety of regions, levels of experience, and focus areas relative to pediatric professional education.

**Applicants must be members of the APTA Section on Pediatrics and meet the following criteria:**

- Evidence of active engagement and expertise in one or more the following areas: pediatric education (didactic or clinical), pediatric physical therapy clinical practice (including clinicians graduating within the past 5-10 years and experienced clinicians).
- Commitment to meeting the outlined objectives of the Summit and a willingness to complete pre and post-conference readings and participate in work groups both during and after the conference.
- Previous experience working with groups or on teams in professional or personal organizations and completing assignments before, during and after the assigned meeting time.

**Please Note: - Attendance at the Summit is Limited**

**To apply for the Education Summit**, please complete the application and e-mail it with your current resume or CV to [jfurze@creighton.edu](mailto:jfurze@creighton.edu) by **5:00 PM EST, December 15, 2011. Late applications will not be considered.** Applicants will be notified of acceptance prior to the Combined Sections Meeting in February of 2012.

**Note: Travel, hotel accommodations, meals, and per diem will be paid by the Section on Pediatrics according to Section policies for travel and reimbursement. The Summit meetings will be held at APTA and lodging will be arranged for all participants at the nearby Crowne Plaza in Alexandria, VA.**

Specific questions regarding the Education Summit should be e-mailed to [maryjane.rapport@ucdenver.edu](mailto:maryjane.rapport@ucdenver.edu), while questions on the application process or submission should be directed to [jfurze@creighton.edu](mailto:jfurze@creighton.edu).