

APTA Section on Pediatrics

E-News Update



Section on Pediatrics Programming at the Combined Sections Meeting

We hope you are planning to attend the upcoming Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) in Las Vegas, February 9-13! CSM 2009 advance registration hit an all-time high, so it should be an exciting meeting. Visit the [CSM Web page](#) for complete programming information and handouts.

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- **Social Functions at CSM:** Make sure to mark your calendars to attend the Section on Pediatrics' Member Breakfast on Wednesday, February 11, from 6:30 to 8:00 am, and the Section on Pediatrics' Business Meeting and Awards Reception on Wednesday, February 11, from 5:45 to 8:00 pm. These events are a fun chance to network. Come early for the best seat!
- **Volunteer at the Booth:** There are still spaces available if you'd like to volunteer at the Section's CSM booth. You can volunteer [online](#). We hope to see you there!
- **Programming Update:** The Section's symposium on infant power mobility, "Access to Independence: Why the Time Is Right for Infant Power Mobility," will feature a 17-month-old child with spina bifida demonstrating his use of a robot-enhanced mobility device. Don't miss it!
- **PT-PAC and the Section on Pediatrics:** The PT-PAC is hosting a friendly competition this year at CSM. The section with the highest PT-PAC participation increase at CSM wins. This is based on CSM registrants and the percentage of section members who contribute to PT-PAC (if someone is a member of several sections, they will be counted for each section). The amount doesn't matter (even \$1 counts), and your contribution will go to a worthy cause. Updated results of the competition will be highlighted at the PT-PAC booth.
- **PCS Forum:** The Section will be hosting a PCS Forum on Thursday, February 12, from 11:45 to 12:45 pm. The purpose of the Forum is for new and recent Pediatric Clinical Specialists to discuss opportunities for involvement, mentoring, and ideas for increasing PCS numbers. Those interested in taking the PCS exam in the next few years also are invited to hear ideas and connect with those interested in mentoring. As a way of saying "Congratulations," the Section will also be providing Certified Specialist pins to new PCS. You can pick up your pins at the Section booth; if you won't be

Interested in getting more involved in the Section on Pediatrics? Visit the Section's [Volunteer Page](#) to find out how!

attending CSM, the pins will be mailed to you after the conference. When you pick up your pin, please let the person at the booth know if you will be attending the Forum, so we have an idea of how many to expect. The location of the Forum will be announced onsite in Las Vegas.

- **Researchers Forum:** Are you interested in collaborating with other pediatric researchers, getting help in planning and conducting your own research, learning more about research and funding, preparing abstracts for presentation at conferences, or sharing clinical ideas that needs research? Meet the members of the Research Committee and other researchers in the Section suite on Tuesday, February 10, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Please stop by the Section booth to find out the location of the Forum.
- **Pediatric Sports-Fitness Special Interest Group:** The PSFSIG aims to be a nationally recognized forum and resource for education, training, and research regarding optimal care delivery to pediatric and adolescent athletes of all abilities. Avenues to reach this goal will include course offerings, presentations, publications and interactive formats. The SIG's upcoming Business Meeting will be at CSM on Wednesday, February 11, from 4:00 to 5:00 pm. Join us to participate in the planning of our future growth. Prior to the meeting, SIG co-chairs Joe Molony and Kevin McHorse will present an educational program titled "Physical Therapy and Youth Sports: Treating the Pediatric and Adolescent Athlete" beginning at 1:00. Both events will be held in the same lecture hall, Islander B. We look forward to seeing you there!

Register for the 2009 Providing School-based Services Under IDEA Course

The [Section on Pediatrics' 3rd Annual Providing School-based Physical Therapy Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 \(IDEA\) course](#) will be held March 27-28, 2009, in Dallas. This course will provide information on the delivery of physical therapy services and decision-making that is necessary to support a free and appropriate public education for all children. In living up to the spirit and intent of this landmark piece of legislation, physical therapy is one of the related services provided under IDEA in schools. Speakers will address the content of IDEA Part B with an emphasis on legislative changes made in 2004. Register today! After March 2, there is a \$50 surcharge.

Section Seeking Experts in Pediatric Acquired Brain Injury

The Section is hoping to liaison with the [Sarah Jane Brain Project](#), which seeks to create a model system for children suffering from

pediatric acquired brain injuries. You can find out more about their plan by visiting their home page and clicking on the National PABI Plan icon on their home page. If you have done research or advocacy in this area, or if you have treated patients in this population, and would like to be involved, please contact Cindy Sliwa at cindysliwa@apta.org (please list "Sarah Jane Brain Project" in the subject line). We'll be working to identify people who can work in this area over the next couple of weeks.

New Edition of Providing PT Services Under IDEA Book Is Ready

The updated edition of *Providing PT Services Under Parts B&C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)* (aka, "the green book") is almost ready! Place your order [online](#); books will be shipped as soon as they arrive February 17.

APTA Adds Pediatric Physical Therapy to Physical Therapist Assistant Recognition Program

APTA has added two new categories of proficiency, Geriatric and Pediatric Physical Therapy, to its Recognition of Advanced Proficiency for the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program. See the complete press release [online](#).

APTA Meets with the New Administration About IDEA

APTA's Justin Moore and Ken Harwood had a meeting with the Obama Transition Team for the Department of Education, which focused on IDEA and support for health care professional education. The discussions focused on the need to support PT and PTA education (especially clinical education and faculty support) and the vacancy rates of PTs in the school system or in settings where individuals with developmental delays/disabilities are treated. APTA, in consultation with the Section on Pediatrics, submitted a 1-page summary document to the team.

Do You Want to Volunteer for Section on Pediatrics?

The Section on Pediatrics has several opportunities available to volunteer at this time - this is your chance to get involved in the Section!

- **The PR Committee** needs some general members starting at CSM. The Public Relations Committee is responsible for

promoting awareness of issues, dissemination of knowledge, and recognition of pediatric physical therapy as related to the needs of children and their families in the community and within the profession.

- **The Education Committee** is conducting a survey of PT schools to get more information about their pediatric curriculum. Volunteers are needed to contact schools and ask a series of questions about the curriculum (there is a script). Volunteers can call as many or few schools as they would like. There are over 200 schools to be contacted so any little bit will help!
- **The Finance Committee** needs members with financial savvy to help make decisions regarding the Section's investments.

To get involved, just visit the [Volunteer Page](#) on the Section's Web site.

Foundation for Physical Therapy Awards \$40,000 Pediatric Fund Grant

Jill Heathcock, PT, MPT, PhD, of The Ohio State University, was awarded a 2-year grant for her research project, evaluating the effectiveness of pediatric physical therapy interventions, "Training in Infants with Neonatal Stroke." The grant was funded by the Pediatric Endowment Fund made possible with generous gifts from APTA's Section on Pediatrics. See the complete press release [online](#).

New Section Fact Sheets Posted Online

Please make sure you check out the Section's [latest fact sheets](#), posted on the Section Web site. These present valuable evidence-based resources for many issues important to pediatric physical therapists.

APTA Has New Tummy Time Tools

[Tummy Time Tools](#) are posted on the Consumer page of the APTA Web site.

Nominations Requested for Scientific Review Committee

The Foundation is seeking recommendations for individuals to serve on its Scientific Review Committee (SRC), and it would be great to have pediatrics represented even more. Well-qualified physical therapist researchers will review doctoral, fellowship, and research grant applications received by the Foundation. To be considered,

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individuals must meet the criteria for SRC membership posted on the [Foundation's Web site](#). Self-nominations are welcome. Please e-mail your recommendations to evadonley@apta.org.

• Upcoming Events

Register Now:

- [Combined Sections Meeting 2009](#), February 9-13, Las Vegas, NV.
- [International Cerebral Palsy Conference](#), February 18-21, Sydney, Australia.
- [Section on Pediatrics' Providing School-based PT Under IDEA](#), March 27-29, 2009, Dallas, TX.

Mark Your Calendars:

- **APTA Annual Conference 2009**, June 10-13, Baltimore, MD.
- **Section on Pediatrics Conference**, January 10-12, 2010, Orlando, FL.