

**Subject: Section on Pediatrics Update**

# APTA Section on Pediatrics E-News Update



**December 22, 2008**

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## **Register Now 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!

## **Section on Pediatrics Programming at the Combined Sections Meeting 2009**

We hope you are planning to attend the upcoming Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) in Las Vegas, February 9-13!

The Section is sponsoring a preconference course: "Identification of and Intervention for Vestibular-related Impairments in Children." Speakers are Jennifer Braswell, PT, and Rose Marie Rine, PT, PhD. This course will include an overview of the anatomical and physiological mechanisms of vestibular system function, the incidence of clinical testing of vestibular function and related impairments in children, and intervention strategies. The preconference is limited to 60 participants (first come, first served) due to the lab space requirements. Click [here](#) for information on our preconference and to view a list of Section on Pediatric Programming. Click [here](#) to register for CSM and/or the Section's preconference course. APTA also will be covering one of the sessions, "Access to Independence: Why the time is right for the infant power mobility," in *Physical Therapy Brand News*, the conference promotional newspaper.

Make sure to also mark your calendars to attend the Section's social

## Health Records

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

functions at CSM. The Section on Pediatrics' Member Breakfast is Wednesday, February 11, from 6:30 to 8:00 am, and the Section on Pediatrics' Business Meeting and Awards Reception is Wednesday, February 11, from 5:45 to 8:00 pm. There also will be opportunities to volunteer at the Section's CSM booth starting in January. We hope to see you in Las Vegas!

## **\$10,000 and \$5,000 Section Grants Awarded**

September 1 was the deadline for the Section on Pediatrics clinical research grants. The Section-funded \$30K grant, earmarked as a planning grant for a multi-site study in early intervention, was announced last month. The Section has also funded the following:

- a \$10K clinical research grant; the grant recipient was Margaret O'Neil, PT, PhD, MPH, for her study, "Using Accelerometry to Measure Physical Activity and Energy Expenditure for School-aged Children with Cerebral Palsy," and
- a \$5K clinical research grant; the grant recipient was Antonette Doty PT, MS, PCS, for her study "A National Survey of School Based Physical Therapists and Transition Practices," with co-investigators Robert Flexer PhD; Lyle Barton, PhD; Shawn Fitzgerald, PhD; and Irene McEwen PT, PhD.

Congratulations! The next grant deadline is April 1, 2009; application information can be found [online](#).

## **Foundation Awards \$40,000 for Pediatric Research**

The Foundation for Physical Therapy has awarded a \$40,000 research grant to evaluate the effectiveness of pediatric physical therapist interventions. The grant, which was funded by the Pediatric Endowment Fund and the 20th Marquette Challenge, co-sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh contributions, has been awarded to Jill Heathcock, MPT, PhD, The Ohio State University, for her project "Training in Infants with Neonatal Stroke." Click [here](#) for more information about the Pediatric Fund.

## **Winning Bid on Section Auction Item for Foundation**

Congratulations to Section member Carolyn Mason on her winning bid for Toys for All Ages, donated by the Section on Pediatrics to the Foundation Auction to benefit the Pediatric Fund. Carolyn plans to donate most of the items to the San Angelo Day Nursery, a daycare

center that provides day care to children of low income families in the San Angelo area; Carolyn serves on its board. Carolyn writes, "Please extend my thanks to the Pediatric Section for their support of the Foundation with their donation of the toys." Her students also do developmental screenings there during their pediatric rotation.

## National Physical Therapy Month Summary

The Section "buddied up" with members of the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) to host Buddy Walks, in joint celebration of National Down Syndrome Awareness Month and National Physical Therapy Month, both of which occur each year in October. These 1-mile walks raise funds for education, research, and advocacy programs for individuals with Down syndrome and their families. Members of the Section on Pediatrics volunteered to work at 77 Buddy Walk sites where their presence was observed by 88,000 participants. Volunteers distributed fact sheets, "Buddy Up" stickers, and balloons. Some PT volunteers led groups in pre-walk warm-up exercises and stretches, and others took part in activities such as face painting, using bubble-makers, making friendship bracelets, applying water-soluble tattoos, and supervising ring-toss and basketball games. At each site, copies of the recently revised APTA publication *Fit Teens* were available for review. To promote National Physical Therapy Month, the Section printed 40,000 copies of two of the Section's fact sheets: *The ABCs of Pediatric Physical Therapy* and *Promoting Your Child's Development: Information Resources for Families of Children with Disabilities* (these also are available on the Section's Web site at [www.pediatricapta.org](http://www.pediatricapta.org) under Resources & Listserve). Thank you to APTA for giving the Section a Community Awareness Grant to help fund our efforts, and thank you to all the members of the pediatric physical therapy community for getting involved!

## New HHS/ED Joint Guidance on the Application of FERPA and HIPAA to Student Health Records

The Departments of Education and Health and Human Services have jointly released guidance to explain the relationship between the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy Rule, and to address apparent confusion on the part of school administrators, health care professionals, and others as to how these two laws apply to student health records. The guidance also addresses certain disclosures that are allowed without consent or authorization under both laws, especially those disclosures related to health and safety emergency situations. The guidance was developed in response to the ["Report to the President on Issues Raised by the Virginia Tech Tragedy"](#) (June 13, 2007), as well as to address questions the respective Departments have heard generally from stakeholders regarding the intersection of the HIPAA Privacy Rule and

FERPA. The Departments of Health and Human Services and Education are committed to a continuing dialogue with school officials and other professionals on these important matters affecting the safety and security of our nation's schools. While this guidance seeks to answer many questions that school officials and others have had about the intersection of these federal laws, ongoing discussions may cause more issues to emerge. Contact information for submitting additional questions or suggestions for purposes of informing future guidance is provided at the end of the guidance document. FERPA is a Federal law that protects the privacy of students' "education records." (See 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99). The HIPAA Privacy Rule requires covered entities to protect individuals' health records and other identifiable health information and gives patients rights over their health information. The guidance is available [online](#) and has been posted on the Section's Web site in the [School-based SIG area](#).

## DEC2009 Conference Proposals: Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 15-18, 2009

The Division for Early Childhood (DEC) of the Council for Exceptional Children invites you to submit a proposal for the DEC Annual Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 15-18, 2009. This annual conference is a great professional development opportunity for those working in the fields of early intervention and early childhood special education. Please click [here](#) for more information. The hot topic for this year is Quality Inclusive Practice in a Diverse Society. We hope you will submit proposals to help attendees develop their understanding of this important topic. The conference program will highlight sessions, roundtables, and poster presentations with a "hot topic" designation. Proposals undergo an anonymous peer review by qualified DEC members. All proposal submissions will be reviewed and scored based on content, organization, and the extent to which the proposal is relevant to the profession and children and/or families from diverse backgrounds. Proposals are accepted online and are due January 15, 2009.

## New Blog for Parents

A deputy editor at *Glamour* magazine who has a son with cerebral palsy who requires physical therapy has started [a blog for parents of kids with special needs](#).

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## • Upcoming Events

*Register Now:*

800/999-2782, ext 3254

[www.pediatricapta.org](http://www.pediatricapta.org)

- [CSM Section on Pediatrics Preconference Course](#): Identification & Intervention for Vestibular Related Impairments in Children, February 9, Las Vegas, NV.
- [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.

## Upcoming Deadlines

**January 9:** [Advance CSM Registration Deadline](#)

**January 27:** [Foundation for Physical Therapy's PODS and NIFTI Applications Due](#)

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