

Tips for Writing Specific Criteria for the Petition for Establishing a New Subspecialty for Physical Therapy Fellowship Practice

Demonstrate Demand (4.2.1)	Demonstrate Need for Specific Education and Training (4.2.2)	Demonstrate Evidence of Current Practitioners in Subspecialty (4.2.3)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicare, Medicaid, & census historical and projected data for number of individuals within subspecialty. (e.g., Approximately 40 million people have a movement disorder in the United States. (www.neuromodulation.com)). • APTA national and state data on historical and current number of physical therapists within subspecialty. • Data from national, state, local organizations affiliated with subspecialty on trends in membership, number of people asking for physical therapy services and demands for health care professionals. • Determine number of therapists taking continuing education (CE) courses or pursuing relevant CE certifications in subspecialty area. • Contact journals (e.g., JNPT) and/or conduct literature search to determine trends in numbers of articles published, projected incidence/prevalence of clients, projected shortages of healthcare professionals and/or health care disparities within the subspecialty. • Specific hospital (system) trends in numbers of clients treated within the subspecialty over the past 3 years and projected demand for physical therapists. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANPT data on number of individuals accessing and downloading information about the subspecialty. • Peer-reviewed articles on specific role of physical therapists and benefits of physical therapy services to treat individuals within the subspecialty. • Data from national, state, local associations or organizations affiliated with the neurologic disorder(s) on numbers of requests for physical therapy services, numbers of individuals receiving physical therapy services, and lengths of time under physical therapist care. • Testimonials from clients in the subspecialty on benefits of physical therapy services. • ANPT and APTA data describing the scope of physical therapy practice to provide services to treat individuals with the neurologic disorder. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact APTA, ANPT Special Interest Groups, Model Systems, Centers of Excellence, etc. to determine membership and estimated percent time practicing in subspecialty area. (e.g., There are over 7000 professionals worldwide with Certified Brain Injury Specialist (CBIS) certifications (biausa.org)). • Contact the ANPT Residency/Fellowship Special Interest Group for information about numbers of physical therapists who are likely to undergo fellowship training in proposed subspecialty. (e.g., Over 300 physical therapists attained their neurologic certified specialist certification in 2020).

Flowsheet of Petition Process to Establish a New Area of Fellowship Practice

