

Influencing Outcomes: An Overview of State Policy Issues that Impact Occupational Therapy

OTAC 33rd Annual Conference
Advocacy Day
Friday, October 23, 2009

State Issues

- Legislative Issues
 - OT Law
 - Scope of Practice Issues
 - Payment Issues
 - Workforce Issues

State Issues

- Regulatory Issues
 - Health Professions Regulation
 - Payment Issues
 - Other (Workforce)

State Issues

- Reimbursement/Payment
 - Private Insurance
 - LCDs – Local Coverage Determinations
 - State Agencies
 - Workers' Compensation
 - Medicaid
 - Insurance Regulation

Monitoring State Issues

- Legislature
 - Governor's Legislative Agenda
 - Agency Agenda
 - House and Senate Committees
 - Health Care
 - Professions

Monitoring State Issues

- Regulatory
 - OT Board
 - Other professions
 - Other agency activity (Workforce)

Monitoring State Issues

- Reimbursement/Payment
 - Changes to OT coverage in private insurance
 - LCDs
 - State agencies (WC, Medicaid)
 - Health insurance laws

Structure

- Government Affairs Committee
 - Legislative, Regulatory and Reimbursement
- Legislative & Regulatory Committee
- Reimbursement Committee

Structure

- Contract Lobbyist
 - Monitoring
 - Legislative and/or Regulatory Issues
 - Proactive
 - List of issues
 - Scope of services/benchmarks
 - OT lobbyist education

Structure

- Authority & Decision Making
 - State President
 - Legislative & Regulatory Chair
 - State Association Board
 - Contract Lobbyist
 - Membership

Advocacy Agenda

- What is the current law?
- What are the issues?
- What is the environment
- What are our resources?
- What is our structure?
- What is our decision making process?
- What is our agenda?

State Issues – OT law

- Upgrade regulation
 - CO, VA, MI, NY, CA, IN
- Revise practice acts
 - NY, AZ, CA, WA, WV, ID

State Issues – Scope of Practice Challenges

- Athletic Trainers
- Chiropractors
- Optometrists
- Developmental Therapists
- Speech Language Pathologists
- Wheeled Mobility Legislation
- Recreational Therapists
- Physical Therapists
- Orthotists and Prosthetists
- Music therapists
- Physicians
- Audiologists
- Podiatrists

States Issues – Payment

- Workers' Compensation
- Medicaid
- Insurance laws (general)
- Insurance laws (mandated coverage – Autism)
- State Child Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP)

State Issues – Workforce

- States looking at health care workforce issues
- Legislation pending in CA that would require study regarding creation of new OT and OTA training programs
- Committee formed under state Department of Labor in Maryland
- Resolution introduced in Hawaii

State Affairs Contacts

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