APTA STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF ESSENTIAL HEALTH BENEFITS HOD P06-18-37-50

The American Physical Therapy Association supports the inclusion of a defined package of essential health benefits in all insurance plans to ensure that individuals across the lifespan, including those with preexisting conditions, have adequate access to comprehensive health services that meet their unique needs.

Essential health benefits shall include, but not be limited to, access to the following services:

- Ambulatory patient services (outpatient care without being admitted to a hospital)
- Emergency services
- Hospice and palliative care
- Hospitalization
- Laboratory services
- Mental health and substance-use disorder services, including counseling and psychotherapy
- Pediatrics services, including oral and vision care
- Pregnancy, maternity, and newborn care; birth control; and breastfeeding support
- Prescription drugs
- Preventive and wellness services and chronic disease management
- Rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices, including assistive technology to help people with injuries, disabilities, developmental delays, or chronic conditions gain, maintain, slow the decline, or recover mental and physical skills.

Health plans shall not place arbitrary limits on the duration or scope of services available in an essential health benefits package. Such decisions shall be determined by medical necessity for the patient and be consistent with jurisdictional scope of practice.

Essential health benefits shall be delivered by qualified health care personnel in accordance with professional standards and state law.

Explanation of Reference Numbers:
HOD P00-00-00-00 stands for House of Delegates/month/year/page/vote in the House of Delegates minutes; the "P" indicates that it is a position (see below). For example, HOD P06-17-05-04 means that this position can be found in the June 2017 House of Delegates minutes on Page 5 and that it was Vote 4.

P: Position | S: Standard | G: Guideline | Y: Policy | R: Procedure