

~~technical correction; child care; licensing~~  
(now: physical therapy; practice; imaging)

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-fifth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2022

**CHAPTER 289**  
**SENATE BILL 1312**

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 32-2001, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 32,  
CHAPTER 19, ARTICLE 3, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION  
32-2041.01; RELATING TO PHYSICAL THERAPY.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 32-2001, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 32-2001. Definitions

5 In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

6 1. "Assistive personnel":

7 (a) Includes:

8 (i) Physical therapist assistants. ~~and~~

9 (ii) Physical therapy aides. ~~and~~

10 (iii) Other assistive personnel who are trained or educated health  
11 care providers and who are not physical therapist assistants or physical  
12 therapy aides but who perform specific designated tasks related to  
13 physical therapy under the supervision of a physical therapist. At the  
14 discretion of the supervising physical therapist, and if properly  
15 credentialed and not prohibited by any other law, other assistive  
16 personnel may be identified by the title specific to their training or  
17 education. ~~This paragraph~~

18 (b) Does not ~~apply to~~ INCLUDE personnel assisting other health care  
19 professionals licensed pursuant to this title in ~~the performance of~~  
20 PERFORMING delegable treatment responsibilities within their scope of  
21 practice.

22 2. "Board" means the board of physical therapy.

23 3. "Business entity" means a business organization that has an  
24 ownership that includes any persons who are not licensed or certified to  
25 provide physical therapy services in this state, that offers to the public  
26 professional services regulated by the board and that is established  
27 pursuant to the laws of any state or foreign country.

28 4. "Dry needling" means a skilled intervention performed by a  
29 physical therapist that uses a thin filiform needle to penetrate the skin  
30 and stimulate underlying neural, muscular and connective tissues ~~for the~~  
31 ~~evaluation~~ TO EVALUATE and ~~management of~~ MANAGE neuromusculoskeletal  
32 conditions, pain and movement impairments.

33 5. "General supervision" means that the supervising physical  
34 therapist is on call and is readily available via telecommunications when  
35 the physical therapist assistant is providing treatment interventions.

36 6. "Interim permit" means a permit issued by the board that allows  
37 a person to practice as a physical therapist in this state or to work as a  
38 physical therapist assistant for a specific period of time and under  
39 conditions prescribed by the board before that person is issued a license  
40 or certificate.

41 7. "Manual therapy techniques" means a broad group of passive  
42 interventions in which physical therapists use their hands to administer  
43 skilled movements designed to modulate pain, increase joint range of  
44 motion, reduce or eliminate soft tissue swelling, inflammation, ~~or~~  
45 restriction, induce relaxation, improve contractile and noncontractile

1 tissue extensibility, and improve pulmonary function. These interventions  
2 involve a variety of techniques, such as the application of graded forces.

3 8. "On-site supervision" means that the supervising physical  
4 therapist is on site and is present in the facility or on the campus where  
5 assistive personnel or a holder of an interim permit is performing  
6 services, is immediately available to assist the person being supervised  
7 in the services being performed and maintains continued involvement in  
8 appropriate aspects of each treatment session in which a component of  
9 treatment is delegated.

10 9. "Physical therapist" means a person who is licensed pursuant to  
11 this chapter.

12 10. "Physical therapist assistant" means a person who meets the  
13 requirements of this chapter for certification and who performs physical  
14 therapy procedures and related tasks that have been selected and delegated  
15 by the supervising physical therapist.

16 11. "Physical therapy" means the care and services provided by or  
17 under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist who is  
18 licensed pursuant to this chapter.

19 12. "Physical therapy aide" means a person who is trained under the  
20 direction of a physical therapist and who performs designated and  
21 supervised routine physical therapy tasks.

22 13. "Practice of physical therapy" means:

23 (a) Examining, evaluating and testing persons who have mechanical,  
24 physiological and developmental impairments, functional limitations and  
25 disabilities or other health and movement related conditions in order to  
26 determine a diagnosis, a prognosis and a plan of therapeutic intervention  
27 and to assess the ongoing effects of intervention, **INCLUDING ORDERING**  
28 **MUSCULOSKELETAL IMAGING CONSISTING OF PLAIN FILM RADIOGRAPHS.**

29 (b) Alleviating impairments and functional limitations by managing,  
30 designing, implementing and modifying therapeutic interventions including:

31 (i) Therapeutic exercise.

32 (ii) Functional training in self-care and in home, community or  
33 work reintegration.

34 (iii) Manual therapy techniques.

35 (iv) Therapeutic massage.

36 (v) Assistive and adaptive orthotic, prosthetic, protective and  
37 supportive devices and equipment.

38 (vi) Pulmonary hygiene.

39 (vii) Debridement and wound care.

40 (viii) Physical agents or modalities.

41 (ix) Mechanical and electrotherapeutic modalities.

42 (x) Patient related instruction.

43 (c) Reducing the risk of injury, impairments, functional  
44 limitations and disability by means that include promoting and maintaining  
45 a person's fitness, health and quality of life.

1 (d) Engaging in administration, consultation, education and  
2 research.

3 14. "Restricted certificate" means a certificate on which the board  
4 ~~has placed~~ PLACES any restrictions as the result of a disciplinary action.

5 15. "Restricted license" means a license on which the board places  
6 restrictions or conditions, or both, as to the scope of practice, place of  
7 practice, supervision of practice, duration of licensed status or type or  
8 condition of a patient to whom the licensee may provide services.

9 16. "Restricted registration" means a registration ON WHICH the  
10 board ~~has placed~~ PLACES any restrictions ~~on~~ as the result of disciplinary  
11 action.

12 Sec. 2. Title 32, chapter 19, article 3, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
13 is amended by adding section 32-2041.01, to read:

14 32-2041.01. Musculoskeletal imaging; ordering; requirements;  
15 reporting

16 A. A PHYSICAL THERAPIST MAY ORDER MUSCULOSKELETAL IMAGING  
17 CONSISTING OF PLAIN FILM RADIOGRAPHS. THE IMAGING SHALL BE PERFORMED BY A  
18 HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER WHO IS AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO THIS TITLE TO  
19 PERFORM THE IMAGING AND SHALL BE INTERPRETED BY A PHYSICIAN WHO IS  
20 LICENSED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 13, 14 OR 17 OF THIS TITLE AND TRAINED IN  
21 RADIOLOGY INTERPRETATION.

22 B. A PHYSICAL THERAPIST SHALL REPORT RESULTS FOR ALL IMAGING TESTS  
23 THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST ORDERS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION TO  
24 THE PATIENT'S HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER OF RECORD OR THE REFERRING HEALTH  
25 CARE PRACTITIONER, IF DESIGNATED, WITHIN SEVEN DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THE  
26 RESULTS. IF THE PATIENT DOES NOT HAVE A HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER OF  
27 RECORD, THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST SHALL REFER THE PATIENT TO AN APPROPRIATE  
28 HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER IF THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST HAS REASONABLE CAUSE TO  
29 BELIEVE THAT ANY SYMPTOMS OR CONDITIONS ARE PRESENT THAT MAY REQUIRE  
30 SERVICES BEYOND THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST'S SCOPE OF PRACTICE.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR JUNE 13, 2022.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE JUNE 13, 2022.