

APTA Section on Pediatrics Early Intervention SIG Update



SECTION ON
PEDIATRICS
AMERICAN PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION

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

Register by Thursday for the Section's Early Intervention Course!

The [IDEA Part C Early Intervention Programs: Implementing Recommended Competencies for Physical Therapists course](#) is being held July 17-18 at the University of Illinois at Chicago (12 contact hours). The course will provide information on the Section on Pediatrics' recommended competencies for physical therapists working in early intervention. Professional development for practice in early intervention is an ongoing process. This course will link the evaluation, assessment, program planning, and intervention with IDEA Part C and current best practice. Don't miss out on being a part of the inaugural gathering of physical therapists interested to learn and network about best practices in early intervention. After July 3, a \$50 late fee will apply. Register online today!

Seeking Volunteers for Work Groups

The Early Intervention Special Interest Group (EI SIG) is currently organizing work groups to carry out SIG objectives and activities that are important to PTs in early intervention practice settings. The following work groups are recruiting volunteers. If you have any questions, are interested in participating in any of the work group areas, or know of additional areas of need, please contact Elisa Kennedy at ekennedy@usouthal.edu. Work groups continue to form as needs arise. A brief explanation of group activities is provided.

- *Volunteer Coordinator* - Recruits and maintains list of volunteers for EI SIG activities.
- *EI SIG Newsletter* - Sends out an informational newsletter via e-mail to SIG members at least twice a year.
- *EI SIG Home Page Monitor* - Monitors home page for accuracy and relevance of information.
- *Speakers' Bureau Liaison* - Develops and maintains list of speakers and topics relevant to

early intervention.

- *Reimbursement Coordinator* - Monitors and works with Section's Reimbursement Committee regarding issues related to early intervention.
- *Public Relations Coordinator* - Develops and carries out PR activities for the EI SIG in collaboration with the Section's Public Relations Committee.
- *Government Relations/Advocacy Coordinator* - Monitors legislation and government activities related to early intervention, and collaborates with the Section's Government Affairs representative for action as needed.

Commonwealth Fund Report Underscores Missed Opportunities for EI for Children with Developmental Delays

The Commonwealth Fund is a much respected policy group. Based on physician surveys, the [report](#) states only 20% of physicians routinely use developmental screening tests with a true figure thought to be closer to 10%. Furthermore, the report provides information that "17% of children under 18 years of age have a developmental or behavioral disability/however, less than 50% of these children are identified as having problems before they start school." Citing this report, pediatric PTs need to market themselves to payers and pediatricians expressing that a developmental screening performed by a qualified PT is important and cost-effective. This is a great opportunity for PTs to develop collaborative relationships with pediatric primary care physicians in their local communities. Look for more information on this topic in the coming year.

EI SIG Leadership

Find the list of EI SIG leadership on the [EI SIG page of the Section on Pediatrics Web site](#). Please contact your regional representative or anyone on the board to communicate your needs and activities in your area, or forward good things happening in your state or community.

Upcoming Events

Register Now:

- [IDEA Part C Early Intervention Programs: Implementing Recommended Competencies for Physical Therapists](#), July 17-18, University of Illinois at Chicago.
- [APTA Practice Management Seminar: Screening for Referral: The Pediatric Client Birth to Six Years](#), July 19-20, Regis University, Denver, CO AND September 6-7, University of

South Carolina, Columbia, SC

Mark Your Calendars:

- Advanced Clinical Practice Course, November 7-8, Hartford, CT (*information coming this summer*)
- [Combined Sections Meeting](#), February 9-13, Las Vegas, NV

Section on Pediatrics,
APTA

1111 N Fairfax St

Alexandria, VA 22314

cindysliwa@apta.org

800/999-2782, ext 3254

[Forward email](#)



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Section on Pediatrics, APTA | 1111 N Fairfax St | Alexandria | VA | 22314