

To whom it may concern-

When physical therapy was a profession in its infancy, the most qualified person to guide the therapist through patient care was the physician.

As physical therapy has evolved and the education thereof has developed, it is now the physical therapist who is most qualified to evaluate a patient to identify the patient's needs, then establish a treatment program and implement it.

The modern physical therapist deserves direct access to the patient. He or she will know when the patient requires referral back to the physician for additional examination and testing.

Russell Woodman Professor Emeritus Quinnipiac University