

APTA Wisconsin Candidate Questions

Name and Credentials:

Daniel Pinto, PT, PhD, DPT

Board-Certified Clinical Specialist in Orthopaedic Physical Therapy

Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapists

Education:

MSPT (Touro University)

DPT (Regis University)

PhD (University of Otago)

Employer and Position:

Marquette University, Associate Professor

DELEGATE

1. As an APTA Wisconsin Chapter representative at the APTA House of Delegates, how would you ensure that the voices and concerns of Chapter members are heard and considered in decision-making processes?

I would advocate for APTA House of Delegate listening sessions at APTA Wisconsin meetings and support the development of a digital “collection box” for concerns for Chapter members.

2. In your opinion, what are some of the most pressing issues facing the physical therapy profession today?

Physical therapy is a service with a lot of competition in the marketplace and there are third-parties that are financially incentivized to decrease access to PT services. This combination threatens the financial viability of the delivery of PT services. Additionally, the expense related to training (becoming a licensed PT) continues to increase, therefore, despite demand for our services, it is becoming increasingly difficult to repay loans associated with training. This is creating the perfect storm in PT where we are having students reconsider the value of entering this profession. The combination of issues surrounding training costs, reimbursement and market competition are the largest issues facing the PT profession and if we are unable to find solutions students, providers, patients, and society will suffer.

3. Collaboration is key in representing a diverse constituency at the APTA House of Delegates. Can you describe a successful collaborative effort you have been a part of in the past and how you contributed to its success?

I am a faculty member at Marquette University where I direct the Behavior, Engagement, and Health Technology Assessment (BETA) research lab. The research we conduct is patient-centered, outcomes research. I seek patient and client input because I don't want to produce a research product that will have barriers to implementation. My research is grounded in collaboration, including community-based participatory research and patient-centered outcomes research. My current randomized controlled trial has been a collaborative effort of no fewer than 10 research collaborators, research assistants, students, health coaches and employee representatives from our participating employer. Previously successful projects have followed the same recipe of being grounded in collaboration including a three-year capacity building project funded by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute and multiple other initiatives. As a Board Member of the International Osteoporosis Foundation and co-chair of its rehabilitation working group I co-led the development of a collaborative rehabilitation website that has been translated into 5 languages and counting. I make the effort to work in a collaborative manner because I am convinced that it produces the best outcome for all involved. In each of these efforts I have served as a co-leader on the initiatives with participating research lab personnel from multiple organizations helping to shoulder the effort.