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Statement of the American Physical Therapy Association in Support of the Coalition for Patients' Rights

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The American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) is proud to support the Coalition for Patients' Rights (CPR) and its commitment to ensuring patients everywhere have access to the full scope of services offered by qualified health care professionals of their choice. Ensuring timely, patient-centered health care is a collaborative interdisciplinary objective of all health care practitioners, including physical therapists.

Members of CPR are united in their commitment to improving the health of all Americans through policies that remove restrictions on accessing qualified health care professionals practicing within their state authorized scope of practice. This effectively puts an end to the fragmented delivery of health care services. Currently, shortages of health care professionals across the care spectrum serve to underscore the need for policies to improve patient access to care rather than restrict it.

APTA is a national organization representing more than 72,000 physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, and students of physical therapy. Physical therapists help individuals of all ages achieve and maintain mobility and quality of life and improving patient access to physical therapist services is a critical issue for APTA.

Promoting a health care system that utilizes all health care professions within their recognized scope of practice, education, and expertise is an essential element to reforming our health care delivery system. As a member of CPR, APTA is dedicated to raising awareness among patients about the array of health care services available and to ensuring their health care needs are met in a timely, high-quality, cost-effective, and safe manner.

APTA stands ready to work with the Coalition to advocate for patients and protect their rights to access care from a broad spectrum of health care professionals.

Sincerely,



R Scott Ward, PT, PhD
President, American Physical Therapy Association

PREVIEW 2020
October 30–November 2
National Harbor, Maryland

CSM 2009
February 9–12
Las Vegas, Nevada