

Memo



Date: May 29, 2014

To: Occupational Therapy Practitioners

From: Minnesota Department of Health, Health Occupations Program

Subject: Repeal of Minnesota Statutes, Section 148.6440, Physical Agent Modalities (PAMs)

Beginning May 22, 2014, occupational therapists (OTs) and occupational therapy assistants (OTAs) are no longer required to seek separate approval to use PAMs. Legislation repealing Minnesota Statutes, section 148.6440, which required OTs and OTAs to apply and be approved to use PAMs by the Commissioner of Health, was passed by the Minnesota Legislature and signed by Governor Dayton, effective May 22, 2014.

The Minnesota Occupational Therapy Association (MOTA) proposed this legislation in recognition of the fact that educational programs for OTs and OTAs now include the training necessary to use PAMs. OTs and OTAs who have been practicing but have not been using PAMs are reminded that the Standards of Practice require practitioners to be knowledgeable about the services he or she provides. PAMs courses will continue to be offered for continuing education credit.

Please note: If you are working or planning to work as an Occupational Therapy Practitioner in Minnesota you are still required to apply and be issued a Minnesota OT or OTA license. You must keep your OT or OTA license current to continue to practice in Minnesota.

If you are an Occupational Therapist and have questions about how this change will affect you, please contact Kim Ruberg at (651) 201-3725 or Health.OT@state.mn.us.

If you are an Occupational Therapy Assistant and have questions about how this change will affect you, please contact Grace Rauchwarter at (651) 201-3724 or Health.OTA@state.mn.us.