

AGENDA ITEM 9

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SENDING PUBLIC COMMENT ASKING FOR BOARD POSITION ON WHETHER ADVANCED PRACTICE APPROVAL IN HAND THERAPY IS REQUIRED FOR NON-COMPLICATED, NON-SURGICAL CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME TO AN ADVANCED PRACTICE REVIEWER(S) FOR AN OPTION.

Public Comment received via email

(Board staff paraphrased)

I believe that clarification is needed on whether Advanced Practice approval in Hand Therapy (APH) is required for **non-complicated, non-surgical** patient with carpal tunnel syndrome. (Emphasis added by licensee.)

If we can have OT Board issue an official statement, that would be great. It's not just this diagnosis; there are some OTs that feel that patients with arthritis also requires APH before any OT can treat them. Same for wrist pain, finger pain, and elbow pain that is not due to trauma or surgery. There may be other diagnoses to be considered within this question.

It's my understanding that APH was required for fractures and post-surgical hand conditions. Full clarification would be beneficial. Practice should be consistent across the region and careful thought about the implications of inconsistent beliefs and practice should be discussed further.