

K.A.R. 100-29-18. Dry needling; education and practice requirements. (a) Dry needling shall be performed only by a physical therapist who is competent by education and training to perform dry needling as specified in this regulation. Online study and self-study for dry needling instruction shall not be considered appropriate training.

(b) Each physical therapist who does not obtain dry needling education and training as part of that individual's graduate or postgraduate education shall be required to successfully complete a dry needling course approved by the board in order to perform dry needling. Each dry needling course shall include a practical examination and a written examination.

(c) Each dry needling course shall include the following components:

- (1) Anatomical review for safety and effectiveness;
- (2) indications and contraindications for dry needling;
- (3) evidence-based instruction on the theory of dry needling practice;
- (4) sterile needle procedures, which shall include the standards of one of the following:
 - (A) The U.S. centers for disease control and prevention; or
 - (B) the U.S. occupational safety and health administration;
- (5) blood-borne pathogens;
- (6) postintervention care, including an adverse response or emergency; and
- (7) an assessment of the physical therapist's dry needling technique and psychomotor

skills.

(d) Each dry needling course shall be taught by a licensed healthcare provider who meets the following requirements:

- (1) Has a scope of practice that includes dry needling;

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(2) meets the regulatory minimum educational standard in that individual's respective state or jurisdiction;

(3) has not been disciplined by any state or jurisdictional licensing agency for any act that would be a violation of the physical therapy practice act or the healing arts act; and

(4) has performed dry needling for at least two years.

(e) Each physical therapist taking a dry needling course shall be required to obtain a passing score on all written and practical examinations given in the dry needling course. Each physical therapist shall obtain a certificate or other documentation from the provider of the dry needling course specifying what anatomical regions were covered in the dry needling course and that the physical therapist passed all examinations.

(f) Each dry needling course shall provide sufficient instruction to ensure that each student is able to demonstrate minimum adequate competency in the following:

(1) Current dry needling techniques;

(2) management of dry needling equipment and supplies;

(3) accurate point selection;

(4) accurate positioning of the patient and the education of the patient regarding the amount of movement allowed while needles are inserted;

(5) supervision and monitoring of the patient during treatment;

(6) communication with the patient, including informed consent; and

(7) clinically appropriate patient selection, including consideration of the following:

(A) The patient's contraindications for dry needling;

(B) the patient's ability to understand the treatment and the expected outcome; and

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(C) the patient's ability to comply with treatment requirements.

(g) After completion of a board-approved dry needling course, each physical therapist shall be required to complete 200 patient treatment sessions of dry needling before taking each successive course in dry needling. Each physical therapist shall complete all foundation-level courses before proceeding to an advanced-level course.

(h) Dry needling shall be performed solely for conditions that fall under the physical therapy scope of practice pursuant to K.S.A. 65-2901, and amendments thereto. Each physical therapist performing dry needling shall perform dry needling only in the anatomical region of training completed by the physical therapist. Each physical therapist who performs dry needling shall do so in a manner consistent with generally acceptable standards of practice.

(i) A physical therapist shall not delegate dry needling. (Authorized by K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 65-2911 and 65-2923; implementing K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 65-2901; effective P-
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