Day 1: May 8, 2019

Welcome to INPTRA 2019

The 2019 INPTRA conference began with a warm welcome from William Hatherill, the chair of the INPTRA Board of Directors. This was followed by a presentation on Rehabilitation 2030 from the keynote speaker, Alarcos Cieza (left). Rehabilitation 2030 is a call for action to scale up rehabilitation so that countries can be prepared to address the evolving needs of populations.
Clearing the Hoops: Regulatory Challenges for Physiotherapy Prescribing

_Speakers: Kim Gibson and Jill Humphreys_

This presentation considered Australian and international prescribing models and frameworks. Physiotherapists in Australia don’t have the ability to prescribe scheduled medicines even though the national law allows for it. The Australian board is tasked with demonstrating the benefits to the country and proving that the consumers won’t be harmed if the law is approved. Three models of prescribing were discussed: autonomous, supervised, and the structured arrangement. Kim and Jill also discussed the pros and cons of physiotherapists prescribing.

Good Governance: A Focus on Board Evaluation

_Speaker: Diana Sinnige_

Diana brought up multiple important questions that regulators should be asking: Is the board doing a good job and how do we know? Is the board truly acting in the public interest as a regulatory body? What will help the board face its current and future challenges?

Small Group Discussion

Dianne Millette from the INPTRA Board of Directors facilitated small group discussions regarding the ingredients that should be included in a tool to evaluate board effectiveness and the ideal process to implement it and report the outcomes.

Scholarship Recipients
The Mirror of Physiotherapy in Peru

Fiorella Patricia Bernabe Dolores

Using the instrument of self-contemplation, physiotherapists in Peru can recognize the lack of professional law and its regulation, resulting in legal problems. Individuals in the profession recognize defects in academic-scientific training related to critical thinking and clinical reasoning, the threats of other occupational groups that adopt physiotherapy functions and competencies (intrusion), and a crisis of identity and professional image and devaluation within public policies. Physiotherapists in Peru are categorized as medical technologists, with a specialty in physiotherapy, instead of as a branch of allied health. With that designation, they cannot fully perform duties that are internationally understood to be part of physiotherapy practice, which negatively impacts patients. There are many challenges for physiotherapists in Peru, but there are paths forward.

Physiotherapy in Nicaragua – 38 Years of History

Theodoro Isaac Tercero Rivera

The profession of physiotherapy in Nicaragua began in the 1950s due to a Polio epidemic. Many physiotherapists from other countries traveled to Nicaragua to help patients during this epidemic. These physiotherapists trained Nicaraguan nurses on the job and this is how the profession started. Currently there is only one university in the entire country that has a physiotherapy program. This university now offers bachelor's and a master's degree programs. There are currently 513 physiotherapists in Nicaragua for a population of 6.5 million. The profession is regulated by the Ministry of Health. The physiotherapists in Nicaragua are interested in regulating the profession outside of the Ministry of Health so that they can focus on developing a competent curriculum that is based off of entry-level practice and so that their profession can keep growing in the next ten years and into the future.

Cafe Sessions
Cafe sessions were ten minute presentations on current/relevant topics regarding physiotherapy around the world. Some of these sessions provided handouts.

- Physiotherapist Support Personnel Around the Globe (Speakers: Sandra Lamb and Nathalie Yerak)
- Listen and Learn – Improving the Regulatory Experience for Both Health Practitioners and Notifiers (Speakers: Cherie Hearn and Libby Trickett)
- Assessing Entry-Level Competence of New Zealand Physiotherapists (Speakers: Janice Mueller and Jonathan Warren)
- Exploring Continuous Professional Development (Speaker: Lyn Green)

See all the INPTRA 2019 presentations and handouts!

**INPTRA Digital Practice Task Force Report**

The Joint WCPT/INPTRA Digital Practice Task Force developed a white paper that represents the work in developed countries. We need to get global input into what’s happening around the world, especially in developing countries. The discussion included the top priorities of regulating digital physiotherapy. Security is a major concern and there are risks associated with digital practice that need to be addressed. Another top priority is ensuring the benefit to the patient and not just convenience to the therapist. The Task Force addressed important questions: Does the provider need to be licensed where the provider is located or where the service is delivered? With so many emerging technologies coming daily, how can we minimize the regulatory barriers?

**Membership Committee Report**

What is the Mission of the Membership Committee?

*To increase involvement in INPTRA via membership and participation in furthering the aims and objectives of INPTRA.*
We are currently leveraging relationships (WCPT Congress), developing a social media presence, and adding new country profiles to our website. There are various challenges for membership that we discussed, such as language barriers and the reliance of WCPT regional chairs to distribute information regarding INPTRA. Since the last INPTRA conference, individual membership grew from fourteen to thirty-one and conference attendance increased from fifty to more than seventy individuals. We also added three new country profiles: New Zealand, Peru, and Korea!

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**Board of Directors Report**

The Board of Directors highlighted accomplishments since the last meeting in 2017:

- Memorandum of Understanding between WCPT and INPTRA
- The Strategic Plan for INPTRA
- Organizational Stability and Sustainability
- INPTRA Webinars and History Timeline on the website

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**Physical Activity**

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**Poster Session**
The Regulatory Research Committee identified many areas in which there is a paucity of regulatory research and discussed INPTRA’s Research Vision:

1. To develop the global evidence base for physiotherapy regulation
2. To encourage all jurisdictions to participate to the best of their ability
3. To develop a research agenda that can be as simple as a data repository about their registrants or if the resources exist a more extensive resource agenda

The Regulatory Research Committee has created a Regulatory Research Framework and is developing a research agenda and priorities for the future.
Day 2: May 9, 2019

Breakout Sessions

The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Evaluation of a QA Program  
Speaker: Chris Smerdon

The Pros and Cons of Standardized Testing to Assess PT Competence at Entry  
Speakers: Katya Masnyk and Lorin Mueller

Countries Working Toward PT Regulation: China – A Case Study  
Speakers: Julia To Dutka, Xiangbin Wang, and Michael Wong

If Regulators “Protect the Public,” How do we Avoid Painting the Picture that Registrants are the “Enemy”  
Facilitator: Charles Flynn

Aging in PTs: The Role of Regulators and PTs in Career Management and Retirement  
Facilitator: Susan Glover Takahashi

How do you License a Physical Therapist Educated in a Different Country?  
Facilitators: Jaime Nolan and Sandra Wise

Physiotherapy in the UK – An Ever-Evolving Role  
Speakers: Sonya Lam, Marc Seale, and Katherine Timms

Efficient, Scalable, and Robust Summative Assessments to Replace Traditional Examinations  
Speaker: Anton Barnett-Harris

New Zealand Physiotherapy Standards  
Speakers: Janice Mueller and Jonathan Warren
Small Group Discussion

Katherine Timms from the INPTRA Board of Directors facilitated small group discussions identifying the challenges regulators face in ensuring physiotherapists behave ethically and how to overcome those challenges.

Regulatory Innovations & Issues

Risks, Supports, and Engagement: A New Frontier in Assuring Licensee Competence in the United States

Speakers: Nancy Kirsch and Michele Thorman

This session highlighted the work of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy’s Continuing Competence Committee as it develops a new and innovative model to assure licensee competence for renewal. Emphasis was placed on collaborative efforts that identify risks and supports for competent practice, a “healthy practice” self-inventory tool, and promoting professional engagement. The session also explored strategies that regulatory bodies can use to promote engagement instead of relying on punitive disciplinary sanctions for physiotherapists who fail to meet continuing education requirements.

Physical Activity
Small Group Discussion

Edgar Hernandez Alvarez from the INPTRA Board of Directors facilitated small group discussions identifying ways to ensure licensees continue to be safe and effective and to pick one aspect of the process that attendees would change.

Cafe Sessions

Cafe sessions during were ten minute presentations on current/relevant topics regarding physiotherapy around the world. Some of these sessions provided handouts.
Use of Innovative Jurisprudence Assessments to Educate Licensees and Reduce Violations
Speakers: Lorin Mueller, Jody Prohar, and Jeffrey Rosa

Quality Disciplinary Data Starts with Operational Definitions
Speaker: Leslie Adrian

Getting to Know You – Innovations in Stakeholder Engagements
Speaker: Kim Gibson

Inside Outsourcing
Speaker: R. A. Steenbruggen

Outstanding Poster and Scholarship Awards

What are immigrant PTs doing while they await licensure in USA?
Jill Randazzo, Lorin Mueller, and Nathalie Yerak

What are the Requirements for a U.S. Educated PT to Practice in Four Countries?
Summer Mooney and Shelley Sparling
Development of Model Board Action Guidelines
Leslie Adrian

System of Guaranteeing the Educational Quality of Colombian Physiotherapy Programs
Karim Alvis and Andrea Muñoz

Theodoro Isaac Tercero Rivera from Nicaragua won an outstanding poster award and was also the recipient of the 2019 INPTRA Scholarship.

Fiorella Patricia Bernabe Dolores from Peru was a recipient of the 2019 INPTRA Scholarship.

Thank You to our INPTRA 2019 Sponsors