

65-2913. Representation as physical therapist or physical therapist assistant; prohibitions; exceptions; construction of act. (a) It shall be unlawful for any person who is not licensed under the physical therapy practice act as a physical therapist or whose license has been suspended or revoked in any manner to represent oneself as a physical therapist or to use in connection with such person's name the words physical therapist, physiotherapist, licensed physical therapist or doctor of physical therapy or use the abbreviations P.T., Ph. T., M.P.T., D.P.T. or L.P.T., or any other letters, words, abbreviations or insignia, indicating or implying that such person is a physical therapist. A violation of this subsection shall constitute a class B nonperson misdemeanor. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit physical therapists licensed under K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 65-2906 and 65-2909, and amendments thereto, from listing or using in conjunction with their name any letters, words, abbreviations or other insignia to designate any educational degrees, certifications or credentials recognized by the board which such licensee has earned. Each licensee when using the letters or term "Dr." or "Doctor" in conjunction with such licensee's professional practice, whether in any written or oral communication, shall identify oneself as a "physical therapist" or "doctor of physical therapy."

(b) Any person who, in any manner, represents oneself as a physical therapist assistant, or who uses in connection with such person's name the words or letters physical therapist assistant, certified physical therapist assistant, P.T.A., C.P.T.A. or P.T. Asst., or any other letters, words, abbreviations or insignia, indicating or implying that such person is a physical therapist assistant, without a valid existing certificate as a physical therapist assistant issued to such person pursuant to the physical therapy practice act shall be guilty of a class B nonperson misdemeanor. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit physical therapist assistants certified under K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 65-2906 and 65-2909, and amendments thereto, from listing or using in conjunction with their name any letters, words, abbreviations or other insignia to designate any educational degrees, certifications or credentials which such physical therapist assistant has earned.

(c) Nothing in this act is intended to limit, preclude or otherwise interfere with the practices of other health care providers formally trained and practicing their profession. The provisions of the physical therapy practice act shall not apply to the following individuals so long as they do not hold themselves out in a manner prohibited under subsection (a) or (b):

- (1) Persons rendering assistance in the case of an emergency;
- (2) members of any church practicing their religious tenets;
- (3) persons whose services are performed pursuant to the delegation of and under the supervision of a physical therapist who is licensed under this act;
- (4) health care providers in the United States armed forces, public health services, federal facilities and coast guard or other military service when acting in the line of duty in this state;
- (5) licensees under the healing arts act, and practicing their professions, when licensed and practicing in accordance with the provisions of law or persons performing services pursuant to the delegation of a licensee under K.S.A. 65-2872(g), and amendments thereto;
- (6) dentists practicing their professions, when licensed and practicing in accordance with the provisions of law;
- (7) nurses practicing their professions, when licensed and practicing in accordance with the provisions of law or persons performing services pursuant to the delegation of a licensed nurse under K.S.A. 65-1124(m), and amendments thereto;
- (8) health care providers who have been formally trained and are practicing in accordance with their training or have received specific training in one or more functions included in this act pursuant to established educational protocols or both;
- (9) students while in actual attendance in an accredited health care educational program and under the supervision of a qualified instructor;
- (10) self-care by a patient or gratuitous care by a friend or family member;
- (11) optometrists practicing their profession when licensed and practicing in accordance with the provisions of article 15 of chapter 65 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto;
- (12) podiatrists practicing their profession when licensed and practicing in accordance with the provisions of article 20 of chapter 65 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto;
- (13) occupational therapists practicing their profession when licensed and practicing in accordance with the occupational therapy practice act and occupational therapy assistants practicing their profession when licensed and practicing in accordance with the occupational therapy practice act;
- (14) respiratory therapists practicing their profession when licensed and practicing in accordance with the respiratory therapy practice act;
- (15) physician assistants practicing their profession when licensed and practicing in accordance with the physician assistant licensure act;
- (16) persons practicing corrective therapy in accordance with their training in corrective therapy;
- (17) athletic trainers practicing their profession when licensed and practicing in accordance with the athletic trainers licensure act;
- (18) persons who massage for the purpose of relaxation, muscle conditioning or figure improvement, so long as no drugs are used and such persons do not hold themselves out to be physicians or healers;
- (19) barbers practicing their profession when licensed and practicing in accordance with the provisions of article 18 of chapter 65 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto;
- (20) cosmetologists practicing their profession when licensed and practicing in accordance with the provisions of article 19 of chapter 65 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto;
- (21) attendants practicing their profession when certified and practicing in accordance with the provisions of article 61 of chapter 65 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto;
- (22) naturopathic doctors practicing their profession when licensed and practicing in accordance with the naturopathic doctor licensure act; and
- (23) acupuncturists practicing their profession when licensed and practicing in accordance with the acupuncture practice act.

(d) Any patient monitoring, assessment or other procedures designed to evaluate the effectiveness of prescribed physical therapy must be performed by or pursuant to the delegation of a licensed physical therapist or other health care provider.

(e) Nothing in this act shall be construed to permit the practice of medicine and surgery. No statute granting authority to licensees of the state board of healing arts shall be construed to confer authority upon physical therapists to engage in any activity not conferred by the physical therapy practice act.

History: L. 1963, ch. 318, § 13; L. 1973, ch. 253, § 11; L. 1983, ch. 215, § 12; L. 1994, ch. 134, § 2; L. 2003, ch. 128, § 10; L. 2004, ch. 24, § 12; L. 2010, ch. 126, § 17; L. 2011, ch. 114, § 20; L. 2016, ch. 92, § 33; July 1.