PELVIC HEALTH PHYSICAL THERAPY AND THE NURSE PRACTITIONER: WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE?

Kathy Curry, PT, DPT **Physical Therapy Today**

Pelvic Health Physical Therapy (PHPT)

Objectives:

- · Discuss components of pelvic health physical therapy.
- Explore the role of the pelvic health physical therapist as a vital part of an inter-professional team
- Develop strategies to access and refer clients to pelvic health physical therapy.

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Pelvic IQ Test:

- 1. $\ensuremath{\text{T/F}}$ Everyone should do Kegels to maintain continence and improve sex and orgasm.
- T/F A normal bowel movement requires straining on the toilet.
 T/F Sex is uncomfortable after childbirth.
- 4. T/F Needing lube means I am not good enough/not turned on enough.
- 5. T/F Kegels are only for women.6. T/F I should pee, just in case.
- 7. T/F Everyone will probably need adult diapers at some point.
 8. T/F Waking up to pee at night is part of getting older.
- 9. T/F At some point, I will get too old for sex.
- 10. T/F It's normal to pee a little when you laugh, cough, sneeze, or jump after childbirth.

- 11. T/F Everyone knows how to Kegel.12. T/F Only women go to pelvic physical therapy.
- 13. T/F Pelvic PT can help.

PHPTs evaluate and treat:

- · Urinary, fecal, and sexual dysfunctions
- Pelvic disorders
- Men, women and children



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Diagnoses:

- · Urinary and fecal incontinence
- Urinary frequency and urgency
- Pelvic organ prolapse (POP)
- Pelvic pain- vaginismus, dyspareunia, interstitial cystitis (IC/PBS), chronic prostatitis/chronic pelvic pain syndrome (CP/CPPS), pudendal neuralgia

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Pelvic Pain:

- · Dyspareunia
- Vaginismus
- Vulvodynia
- · Vestibulodynia
- Clitorodynia
- · Pudendal neuralgia
- IC/PBS



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Diagnoses:

- •CP/CPPS
- Constipation
- · Defecation dyssynergia
- · Anal pain/spasms
- Coccydynia
- Hip pain (obturator internus)

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Diagnoses:

Obstetric pain
 SIJ/pubic symphysis instability
 Severe LBP





Treatment:

Biofeedback: EMG/Pressure (vaginal, rectal)

EMS (vaginal, rectal)





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Treatment:

- MTrP release (ischemic compression, dry needling)
- Myofascial release
- Positional inhibition (strain counterstrain)
- · Contract-relax technique
- Dilator insertion vaginally
- Aquatic therapy for pain patients
- · Mindful meditation/PRE
- Yoga



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First Line of Treatment:

Urinary incontinence- SUI, UUI and MUI

(American College of Physicians: Quaseem et al 2014)

Family physicians manage UI effectively

(Moore et al 2003)

 Cochrane Systematic Review of 21 trials: PFPT associated with UI cure 100% less leakage or improvement, 75% less leakage

(Dumoulin et al 2014)

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First Line of Treatment:	
POP: Grades 1-3	
•To prevent the prolapse from	
becoming worse	
 To help decrease the frequency/severity of symptoms 	-
•To avert or delay the need for surgery	
To an one or easily are necessarily	
(Hagen & Thakur 2012)	-
PHPT	
First Line of Treatment:	
 IC/PBS- to decrease suprapublic pain, pressure may or may not be related to 	
bladder filling, pain in urethra, vulva, vagina, rectum, lower abdomen and back, urinary	
urgency/frequency, nocturia	
OD/ODDO to do one o de la constante de la cons	
 CP/CPPS- to decrease pain in perineum, suprapubic region, rectum, testicles, tip of 	
penis, prostate, abdomen, pain/difficulty with voiding, erections and ejaculation, urinary	
frequency, nocturia	
(American Urological Association Guidelines: Hanno et al 2011)	
PHPT	
Recommendations: Ask the right questions	
-pain with intercourse (only 15% of	
family practice physicians ask ábout sexual dysfunction (Ribeiro et al 2014)	
-urinary and fecal continence	
-pain with voiding and/or defecation	
 Add questions to medical history questionnaire to promote ease of 	-
discussion	

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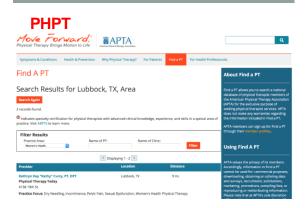
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- · Locate a PHPT online:
- APTA: Find a PT (www.apta.org)
 - -choose zip code/city
 - -scroll through and note Practice of Focus (pelvic pain, incontinence)
- Women's Health Section: PT Locator (www.womenshealthapta.org)
- click on pelvic pain or urinary incontinence
- -choose zip code/state
- · Herman and Wallace (www.hermanwallace.com)
- · -click on Resources
- -choose Practitioner Directory (map of USA with pins)

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Herman and Wallace: Practitioner Directory



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How to refer a patient:

- Sign a referral- patient name, diagnosis, evaluate and treat
- Fax referral to Physical Therapy Today 19th St
- Our office calls the patient to set up appointment
- Encourage patient to attend evaluation and treatment

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Case Study

Patient is a 47 year old female with the chief complaint of urinary leakage when she coughs, laughs, lifts, exercises and sometimes while on the way to the bathroom with a strong urinary urge. On the medical questionnaire she leaves the question regarding history of sexual abuse blank. And she notes on the questionnaire that she has pain during intercourse.

- · What questions do you ask her?
- What are you going to examine and how?
- What are her options for treatment?

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Questions and	
Discussion	
Thank you!	