

INTERNATION NETWORK OF PHYSICAL THERAPY REGULATORY AUTHORITIES (INPTRA)

Public Protection in 2011: Advancing Regulation in Physical Therapy
Amsterdam, June 2011
Summary Report

Introduction

The International Network of Physical Therapy Regulatory Authorities (INPTRA) held its third business meeting coupled with an education session in Amsterdam, June 19-20, 2011. INPTRA exists to provide a forum for existing or emerging physical therapy regulatory authorities, or other related organizations, to participate in exploring and further understanding regulatory systems, issues and opportunities around the world, and to facilitate international cooperation and collaboration on issues of mutual interest.

The meeting was held over one and a half days with an intent to share issues and best practices related to regulation, and to advance discussions on the global movement of physiotherapists.

Attendance

The meeting was attended by 32 members of the Network, representing 11 jurisdictions (see list of attendees on the website). Regrets were received from four additional jurisdictions. This response was received with great enthusiasm as it represents a demonstrated growth and interest in international conversation related to physiotherapy regulation.

Education Session

The education component focused on three separate themes:

- **Public Confidence** which raised the challenges facing the regulatory community based on their perceived accountability (or not) in relation to public protection. Ambrose McLoughlin from Ireland engaged in the audience with a call to ensure the understanding of regulators of the place of regulation in the economy and on health human resources planning. He was also clear that the negative public perception on how regulators are contributing to the health system will be an uphill battle to overcome.

- **Continuing Competence** remains a central theme of interest to the regulatory community. Joan Sargeant from Canada began this conversation assisting the audience to explore human factors that intersect with continuous improvement in practice. A panel of exemplars provided perspective on the opportunities and challenges of evolving models of competence measurement including portfolio (Mark Potter, UK), professional development (Mark Lane, USA), practice assessment (Lucie Forget, Canada) and revalidation (Maree Grbin, New Zealand). A lively group dialogue was held.
- **Remediation and Willful Conduct** is an area of dilemma for all regulators. Jonathan Bracken from the UK posed several considerations in determining what sanctions may or may not be useful in this circumstance. He emphasized an important dichotomy that should receive attention regularly – what a regulator is doing versus what they are perceived to be doing.

All presentations are posted on this website.

Business Meeting

A successful business meeting was held with such key accomplishments as adoption of a fee proposal, direction to develop a first charter of rules for the network and a charge for 2011-2015.

The full set of meeting notes are also housed on the website.