



North Carolina Board of Physical Therapy Examiners

SCOPE OF PRACTICE QUESTIONS : The standard for making NC Physical Therapy scope of practice decisions is analyzing if it satisfies Board Rule 48C .0101 (a) Permitted Practice -which states, "Physical therapy is presumed to include any acts, test, procedures, modalities, treatments, or interventions that are **routinely** taught in educational programs, or in continuing education programs for physical therapists and are **routinely** performed in practice settings."

If the Board determines that it does not satisfy Board Rule 48C .0101 (a), if new or additional information is provided to the Board regarding where this is taught in entry-level or continuing education and is routinely practiced by physical therapists, it will review the new information and make a determination.

September 2, 2020

Is it within the scope of practice of a PTA to assess heart sounds in a home health patient? The Board determined that assessment of heart sounds is not routinely taught in PTA academic education which does not meet the Board standard for a procedure to be considered within the scope of practice. In addition, the NC PT Practice Act considers assessment outside the scope of practice for a PTA