

## 2024 PT Department CEU Courses

*Please note that these courses are not available to reserve at this time. We will be publishing more information regarding payment soon.*

---

**Course Title:** Documentation & Payment Principles: 2024 Update

**Number of CEUs:** 0.3 CEUs

**Price:** \$60

**Course Instructor:**

**Ellen R. Strunk, PT, MS, GCS, ACEEAA, CHC, RAC-CT**  
***Rehab Resources & Consulting, Inc.***

Ellen received her Masters in Physical Therapy from UAB, and earned her APTA Board Certification in Geriatric Physical Therapy in 1999. She has been a practicing physical therapist for over 20 years, working in the hospital, skilled nursing, home health, outpatient and cardiac rehab settings. She has held various roles including clinician, manager and Director over multiple programs. Presently, Ellen is owner of Rehab Resources and Consulting, Inc., a company providing continuing education and consulting services for post-acute care settings. Ellen is a member of the APTA, where she has served on Payment Policy Strategy Committees advising the APTA Board of Directors on payment policy in all settings. She serves on a state level as the Chair of the Practice and Reimbursement Committee for the Alabama Physical Therapy Association. In 2009, Ellen became a Certified Expert in Exercise for the Aging Adult, a certification course sponsored by the APTA's Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy. In 2015, Ellen became Certified in Healthcare Compliance through the HealthCare Compliance Association.

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, August 27, 2024 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Course Delivery Method:** The speaker will deliver the course in real time via Zoom. Participants are welcome to join the course by Zoom or in-person with other clinicians and students on the USA campus in an auditorium with a large screen. There will be a time for in-person networking before the course and during breaks.

**Location:** University of South Alabama HAHN #1013 Nursing Auditorium or by Zoom

**Course Description:** 2024 is almost over, and 2025 promises to be another important year. With every new policy comes potential changes for therapy professionals related to coding, payment, documentation, and reasons for payment denial. As healthcare dollars continue to be squeezed in every setting, therapy services must be proactive in order to be paid by Medicare and private payers. In the midst of it all, CMS and other payers continue to march towards value-based payment models. Additionally, Alabama recently had a 'win' in the statehouse advancing physical therapists' ability to meet the public's need for physical therapy.

This course will provide participants with a fresh look at the rules and regulations for documentation and coding therapy services. The key components of documentation will be presented along with recommendations for how to incorporate them into daily documentation. The participant will also learn

about recent changes affecting therapists in all settings: changes in the fee schedule, new CPT codes available to therapists and therapist assistants, as well as updates on skilled nursing facility, inpatient rehabilitation facility and home health agency payment and quality reporting programs.

**Learner-based objectives:**

Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to:

1. Understand why all therapists should maintain competence in skilled documentation requirements.
2. Effectively communicate the information needed in evaluations, treatment notes, progress reports and discharge summaries.
3. Discuss the most recent changes to therapy services payment and policies.
4. Discuss the most recent policy and payment landscape, including telehealth and Alabama's new direct access landscape.

**Intended audience:** PTs, PTAs, OTs, COTAs, SLPs, Office managers

**Prerequisite course:** none

**Special Attire:** No special attire is required

**Specified Equipment/books:** None

---

**Course Title:** Functional Neurologic Disorder: Examination, Evaluation, and Intervention Strategies

**Number of CEUs:** 0.3 CEUs

**Price:** \$60

**Course Instructors:** Blair Saale, PT, DPT, NCS and Tracey Coale, PT, DPT

- Blair is an assistant professor in the DPT program at the University of South Alabama. Blair received her DPT degree from Belmont University and she is an ABPTS certified Neurologic Clinical Specialist. In addition to teaching in the clinical skills, pathophysiology, neuroscience, and neurology curriculum, she has experience in acute, inpatient, and outpatient neurorehabilitation. She is also a Parkinson's Foundation PT Faculty Scholar.
- Tracey is an assistant professor in the DPT program at the University of South Alabama. Tracey received her PT degree from University of South Alabama and DPT from Boston University. She has clinical experience in acute and inpatient rehab. She currently teaches in the clinical skills, professionalism and clinical education curriculum.

**Date & Time:** August 29, 2024 5:45 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

**Course Delivery Method:** In-person

**Location:** University of South Alabama Department of Physical Therapy. Room: HAHN 2048

**Course Description:** This course will look at the diagnosis of Functional Neurologic Disorder (FND) and discuss current evidence based practice for examination, evaluation, and intervention.

**Learner-based objectives:**

Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to:

1. Describe current evidence related to the diagnosis of FND
2. Choose appropriate outcome measures for examination of an individual with FND
3. Describe appropriate examination and evaluation techniques for individuals with FND
4. Utilize evidence based approaches to rehabilitation interventions for individuals with a diagnosis of FND
5. Apply evidence based principles to a patient case for an individual with FND

**Course Schedule:**

5:45 p.m. - Opening remarks; Course objectives

6:00 p.m. - Diagnosis considerations for Functional Neurologic Disorders

6:30 p.m. - Evidence based examination and evaluation of individuals with diagnosis of FND

7:15 p.m. - Evidence based intervention techniques for individuals with diagnosis of FND

8:00 p.m. - Case Application

8:45 p.m. - Closing remarks

**Course Open to:** PT, PTA, OT, OTA

**Prerequisite course:** None

**Special Attire:** No special attire is required

**Specified Equipment/books:** None

**Maximum Registration:** 30

---

**Course Title:** Treatment of Vestibular Migraine (The 3rd most common vestibular disorder)

**Number of CEUs:** 0.3 CEUs

**Price:** \$60

**Course Instructor: Tara Andrews, PT, DPT, NCS**

- Tara is an assistant professor in the DPT program at the University of South Alabama. Tara received her DPT degree from the University of South Alabama. She is an ABPTS certified Neurologic Clinical Specialist and has clinical experience in acute, inpatient rehab, and outpatient physical therapy. She currently teaches in the clinical skills, movement analysis, and neurology curriculum. She recently obtained certification through the APTA Vestibular Competency Course and has a special interest in vestibular physical therapy and vestibular research.

**Date & Time:** Thursday, September 5th; 5:45 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

**Course Delivery Method:** In-person

**Location:** University of South Alabama Department of Physical Therapy. Room: HAHN 2048

**Course Description:** Vestibular migraine is the third most common vestibular disorder in the adult population; however, it is vastly underdiagnosed and undertreated in our area. This course will empower you with the ability to identify signs and symptoms of vestibular migraines in your patients and effectively treat them.

**Learner-based objectives:**

Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to:

1. Review pathophysiology of vestibular migraine
2. Understand the signs and symptoms of vestibular migraine
3. Perform an evaluation for vestibular migraine
4. Understand the necessary patient education and treatment techniques needed for clients with vestibular migraine

**Course Schedule:**

5:45 p.m. - Opening remarks; Course objectives

6:00 p.m. - Pathophysiology of vestibular migraine and signs and symptoms

7:00 p.m. - Evaluation of vestibular migraine

7:30 p.m. - Treatment of vestibular migraine

8:45 p.m. - Closing remarks

**Course Open to:** PT, PTA, OT, OTA

**Prerequisite course:** None

**Special Attire:** No special attire is required

**Specified Equipment/books:** None

**Maximum Registration:** 30

---

**Course Title:** Interpreting Lab Values for the Rehabilitation Professional

**Number of CEUs:** 0.2 CEUs

**Price:** \$40

**Course Instructor:** Preston Warren, DPT, MD

Preston is an assistant professor in the DPT program at the University of South Alabama. He earned his DPT from the University of South Alabama in 2010 and his MD from the University of South Alabama in 2016. He has clinical experience in acute care, skilled nursing, and outpatient physical therapy.

**Date & Time:** Thursday, September 12th; 5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

**Course Delivery Method:** In-person

**Location:** University of South Alabama Department of Physical Therapy. Room: HAHN 2048

**Course Description:** This course equips physical therapists and physical therapist assistants with a foundational understanding of interpreting common medical laboratory tests. By translating lab results into actionable insights, you'll enhance patient safety, optimize treatment plans, and collaborate more effectively with referring medical providers.

**Learner-based objectives:**

Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to:

1. Identify the normal reference ranges for common lab values relevant to physical therapy.
2. Identify common pathologies which may impact lab values.
3. Identify potential red flags in lab values that may require further investigation by a medical provider.
4. Utilize lab values to inform the physical therapy evaluation and plan of care.

**Course Schedule:**

5:45 p.m. Opening remarks; course objectives

6:00 p.m. Discuss normal reference ranges for common lab values.

6:30 p.m. Review common pathologies and their potential impact on lab values.

7:15 p.m. Red flag lab values warranting medical assessment.

7:45 p.m. Closing remarks

**Course Open to:** PT, PTA

**Prerequisite course:** None

**Special Attire:** Casual attire

**Specified Equipment/books:** None

**Maximum Registration:** 40

---

**Course Title:** Fascia Freedom: Harnessing Myofascial Release for Holistic Healing

**Number of CEUs:** 0.2 CEUs

**Price:** \$40

**Course Instructor:** Shawn Drake, PT, PhD

Shawn is the Chair and Professor in the DPT program at the University of South Alabama. Shawn received her MPT degree from Arkansas State University in 2004 and her Doctor of Philosophy in Exercise Physiology from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2002. She is certified as a Schroth physical therapist through the Barcelona School of Physical Therapy. In addition to teaching in the DPT curriculum, she coaches swimming with the City of Mobile Swim Association.

**Date & Time:** Thursday, Sept 19 5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

**Course Delivery Method:** In-person; lecture / lab

**Location:** University of South Alabama Department of Physical Therapy. Room: HAHN 2048

**Course Description:** This course delves into the application of myofascial release techniques within a holistic therapy framework. You will gain a deeper understanding of the fascial system's role in movement, pain, and overall well-being. By integrating these gentle yet powerful manual therapy techniques, you can enhance your treatment toolbox to improve pain and patient well-being.

**Learner-based objectives:**

Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to:

1. Understand the fundamentals of myofascial release therapy and its connection to mind-body healing.
2. Gain practical skills in assessing and addressing fascial restrictions to alleviate physical discomfort and promote mental well-being.
3. Explore evidence-based research supporting the efficacy of myofascial release for mind-body healing.

**Course Schedule:**

5:45 p.m. Opening remarks, Course objectives

6:00 p.m. – Lecture / Introduction

6:30 pm- Laboratory / Skills  
7:30 p.m. Closing Remarks

**Course Open to:** PT, PTA, OT, OTA, ATC

**Prerequisite course:** None

**Special Attire:** Lab attire

**Specified Equipment/books:** None

**Maximum Registration:** 30

---

**Course Title:** Evaluation and Treatment of the Orthopedic Patient in Telerehabilitation

**Number of CEUs:** 0.3 CEUs

**Price:** \$60

**Course Instructor:** Kevin Strehler, PT, DPT, PhD

Kevin is an assistant professor in the DPT program at the University of South Alabama. He earned his DPT from the University of Florida in 2016 and his PhD in Biomedical Sciences, with a concentration in Physiology and Pharmacology in 2013. He has clinical experience in outpatient orthopedics and prior to his current appointment practiced exclusively as a telerehabilitation therapist from 2022-2024. He currently teaches in the clinical skills, research, and musculoskeletal curriculum.

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, September 10th; 5:45 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

**Course Delivery Method:** In-person

**Location:** University of South Alabama Department of Physical Therapy. Room: HAHN 2048

**Course Description:** Virtual practice in rehabilitation allows for improved patient access for physical therapy care. Primary barriers to successful delivery of telerehabilitation is physical therapist's perception of lack of confidence in completing accurate assessments and the loss of hands-on intervention in the virtual space. This course will empower the physical therapist to confidently detect the appropriate telerehabilitation patient and practice evidence-based virtual care of the orthopedic patient. While this course is focused on orthopedics, the general principles presented within are applicable to all patients.

**Learner-based objectives:**

Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to:

1. Identify criteria for telerehabilitation regarding: "right patient, right place, right time"

2. Understand the principles of an evidence-based basic orthopedic evaluation of the axial skeleton in the virtual environment
3. Understand the principles of an evidence-based basic orthopedic evaluation of the appendicular skeletal system in the virtual environment
4. Understand modifications for completion of manual therapy and exercise interventions in telerehabilitation
5. Confidently complete a 30 minute virtual patient evaluation.

**Course Schedule:**

5:45 p.m. Opening remarks, course objectives

6:00 p.m. General compliance and safety consideration in virtual practice

6:15 p.m. Performing a virtual orthopedic examination

7:15 p.m. Modifications of interventions for virtual delivery

7:45 p.m. Completion of virtual evaluation with fellow participant partner

8:45 p.m. Closing remarks

**Course Open to:** PT, PTA

**Prerequisite course:** None

**Special Attire:** Casual attire

**Specified Equipment/books:** E-mail enabled smartphone/tablet or laptop with functional camera preferred.

**Maximum Registration:** 40

---

**All purchases are final regardless of course attendance.**