

Guide to Evidence Based Physical Therapist Practice, Third Edition
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Transition Guide

What's New to the 3rd Edition

My concept for this text remains a single, user-friendly resource for physical therapist students and physical therapists learning to apply evidence in routine clinical practice. Consistent with prior versions, this edition contains chapters about research methods that supplement content about the evidence appraisal process. The patient/client management model described in the American Physical Therapy Association's *Guide to Physical Therapist Practice, Second Edition* remains the framework for discussion. Language is consistent with the World Health Organization's *International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health*.

Examples from published literature specific to physical therapist practice have been updated and expanded to illustrate key points throughout the text. These articles are not intended to reflect standards of practice. Readers are encouraged to use the skills learned from this text to locate the original works, critically appraise them, and decide whether these studies are useful

Specific Chapter Updates:

Chapter 1

- Examples of errors in reasoning that result from our biases and the limitations of experience-based practice have been added to support the case for use of evidence in our clinical decision-making.

Chapter 2

- Previous editions of this text have included the widely used “levels of evidence” hierarchies proposed by the Oxford Centre for Evidence Based Medicine. Updated versions are referenced in this chapter.

Chapter 3

- The descriptions of search strategies are augmented by updated screen shots of commonly used scientific and medical electronic databases. However, the number of images has been reduced due to regular changes to database format and functionality.

Chapter 5

- Content related to qualitative research designs has been expanded to improve reader understanding about the contribution of these methodologies to the body of knowledge about physical therapy patient/client management.

Chapter 6

- Research articles used as examples has been expanded and updated

Chapter 8

- The threats to research validity are expanded and reorganized according to their different sources so that similar types of biases are classified together.

Chapters 9 and 10 [previously Chapter 9]

- Information about statistical tests used in research studies has been split into two chapters. Chapter 9 focuses on descriptive statistics and a new Chapter 10 concentrates on inferential tests. Feedback I received from faculty using the text book indicated that unpacking this content would facilitate teaching and learning of this challenging material.
- The format of both chapters honors the original work with tables designed for easy reference and emphasis on balancing statistical significance with clinical relevance.

Chapter 11 [previously chapter 10]

- The evidence appraisal worksheet has been revised.
- Examples from the published literature also have been updated.
- A key difference in this chapter from other books like it is the inclusion of appraisal strategies for evidence about clinical measures physical therapists routinely use [i.e., goniometers, dynamometers, blood pressure cuffs, etc]. Typically EBM text books focus only on diagnostic tests that are designed to identify the problem. This is NOT a new feature of the text – I have included this information in every edition.

Chapter 13 [previously chapter 12]

- The evidence appraisal worksheet has been revised.

Chapter 15 [previously chapter 14]

- Articles have been updated
- A brief discussion about use of clinical registries and the data they provide for evaluating patient outcomes has been added

Chapter 18 [previously chapter 17]

- Examples of qualitative research are provided to illustrate more explicitly the contribution of these designs to a physical therapist's ability to discern and understand individual patient/client preferences and values.

Chapter 19 [previously chapter 18]

- Cases have been updated with new articles when search strategies re-tested.
- Electronic search database screen shots have been added to reinforce material in chapter 3