



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

CR-101 (October 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.310)

Do NOT use for expedited rule making

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FILED

DATE: July 21, 2023

TIME: 8:44 AM

WSR 23-16-028

Agency: Department of Health and the Board of Physical Therapy

Subject of possible rule making: Physical Therapists intramuscular needling requirements. The Board of Physical Therapy (board) and Department of Health (department) are considering rulemaking in chapter 246-915 WAC, Physical Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants, to clarify statutory requirements for education and training and define an intramuscular needling endorsement. The board and department may consider associated training and education requirements, updating definitions, establishing a fee for the intramuscular needling endorsement, and creating a process to apply for the endorsement.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: Second Substitute House bill (2SHB) 1039 (chapter 198, Laws of 2023), RCW 18.74.023, 43.70.110, 43.70.250, and 43.70.280

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: 2SHB 1039 expands the scope of practice of physical therapists to perform intramuscular needling, also known as dry needling. Rules may be needed to clarify statutory requirements for education and training to receive an initial endorsement to perform intramuscular needling. The board and the department will also consider establishing the steps to apply for the endorsement, including establishing a fee.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies: None

Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):

- Negotiated rule making
- Pilot rule making
- Agency study
- Other (describe) Collaborative rulemaking

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting:

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Web site: doh.wa.gov	Web site:
Other:	Other:

Additional comments: Interested parties can participate in the drafting of the proposed rules. The department and the board will be conducting rules workshops with interested parties and subject matter experts. The department will use existing GovDelivery lists and other known contact information to inform interested parties of opportunities to provide input

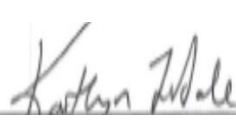
on proposed rule language. To find out more information about our rulemaking, visit www.doh.wa.gov. To subscribe to GovDelivery, please visit www.doh.wa.gov, and select the "Subscribe" button at the bottom of the page, select Health Professions, and then Physical Therapy Program. You may also check the box next to one or more of the other professions listed to receive information related to that specific profession.

Date: July 18, 2023

Name: Kathryn Dale, PT, DSc and Kristin Peterson, JD for Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH

Title: Chair, Physical Therapy Board and Chief of Policy for Secretary of Health

Signature:

Handwritten signature of Kathryn Dale in cursive script, written over a horizontal line.Handwritten signature of Kristin Peterson in cursive script.