

Position Statement – North Carolina Board of Physical Therapy Examiners

14. Performance of Sharp Debridement by a Physical Therapist Assistant

Posted – March 29, 2007

Reviewed – Sept. 23, 2010, June 17, 2015, June 6, 2018, Sept. 2, 2020, June 8, 2022, June 5, 2024

The NCBPTE has determined that in those limited situations in which engaging in interventions involving sharp debridement does not require continuing evaluation during the intervention, it is not a violation of the **North Carolina Physical Therapy Practice Act** or Board rules for a physical therapist assistant who is properly trained and appropriately supervised to perform sharp debridement provided that the debridement is strictly treatment. If a continuing evaluation is required during the treatment, then performance by the physical therapist is required, and the determination of whether sharp debridement should be performed is made by the physical therapist.

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