LETTER OF INTRODUCTION / INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

IRB# 2009K7294

*My name is* Beverly Newman *and I am a PhD student in the Education Department (Adult Professional Community Education) at Texas State University – San Marcos. I am also a physical therapist and teach in the physical therapist assistant program at Houston Community College. I am working under the supervision of* Dr. Steve Furney *at Texas State University – San Marcos. I am doing research at Texas Orthopedic Hospital for my PhD dissertation.*

*Based on the criteria established for my research you qualify to participate in my research. I am recruiting 75 physical therapy patients at Texas Orthopedic Hospital with a hip or knee disorder, aged 18-55, no neurological deficits, and no competitive athletes. All participants will be able to read and write English.*

*Participation in this study involves agreement on your part for the results of your initial tests and measures (taken by your physical therapist) and the results of the test on return demonstration of your home exercise (taken by your physical therapist) be provided to me for my research. Your name or any other identifying information will not be on any documents I receive or in my research. Your therapist will assign you a research case number and record the results of your tests using this number. Your therapist will provide me with the following demographics: your age, sex, and diagnosis.*

*Participation in this study does not require any additional physical therapy visits or any change to your physical therapy. Your therapist is working under the referral from your physician.*

*I would like to assure you that the study has been reviewed and received approval by the Institutional Review Board at Texas State and Texas Orthopedic Hospital. The final decision about participation is voluntary and is up to you.*

*If you are interested in participating, please notify the scheduling coordinator at Texas Orthopedic Hospital. The scheduling coordinator will provide you a copy of the consent form. You will need to read this thoroughly and sign the consent form to participate in this study. The consent form has more details about the research and the scheduling coordinator will explain the study in more detail to you.*

*Sincerely,*

Beverly Newman, PT, MSHP