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## **DIRECT ACCESS**

In New York and most of the United States, patients are now able to be evaluated and treated by a licensed physical therapist without a physician's referral, this is called Direct Access. Some insurance plans may still require you to consult with a physician first, in order to be reimbursed for PT services, so please check with your insurance provider as plans differ.

- Direct access benefits patients in that it allows patients to expedite treatment, saving time and money.
- More information on direct access is available on the American Physical Therapy Association's website: <a href="https://www.apta.org">www.apta.org</a>

## **New York State**

- 1. Treatment can be rendered by a Licensed PT for 10 visits or 30 days, whichever comes first.
- 2. PT must have practiced PT on a full-time basis for at least 3 years and be 21 years old.
- PT must provide written notification that services without a referral might not be covered by the patient's health plan and it must state that services might be covered by health plan with a referral. A copy of the signed written notification must be in the patient's file.

## **ProHealth & Fitness PT OT**

- Prior to your first appointment, we encourage you to check with your insurance provider about the specific requirements and reimbursement policies for your plan
- At or prior to your initial evaluation, in accordance with State regulations, we will have you sign this form indicating notification regarding direct access and reimbursement.
- At any time during evaluation and treatment, if we feel your condition is more involved or we are not seeing progress, we will refer you to an appropriate physician.
- 4. After 10 visits or 30 days (in NY), if further visits are needed, we will refer you to your health care provider for a physical therapy prescription or we can make a suggestion for you if you do not have a physician.
- If after 10 visits or 30 days, the patient does not have a prescription on file, PT services must stop until a valid prescription is on file.

I understand that I cannot continue to receive physical therapy after my 10<sup>th</sup> visit or 30 days, without a prescription. I also understand that my insurance policy may have their own rules regarding Direct Access and reimbursement for services rendered.

Date:/		
Patient's Name:	Patient Signature:	
Physical Therapist:	PT signature:	