

WHAT CAN I EXPECT DURING A PHYSICAL THERAPY SESSION?

You should be treated with respect and dignity, and your questions should be answered.

- Before any therapy procedure begins, your PT or PTA should explain what will happen and obtain your consent.
- You should have privacy and appropriate coverage with a gown or drape if the examination requires exposed areas.
- If your evaluation or treatment involves a sensitive area, you have the right to ask for a chaperone.

WHAT IS NOT OK DURING A PHYSICAL THERAPY SESSION?

The following behaviors are not appropriate during physical therapy:

- Not explaining the procedures to be performed and why.
- Unwanted physical contact, inappropriate touching, or sexual advances.
- Asking you to expose areas of your body that are not part of the treatment.
- Exchanging sexual favors for treatment.
- Excessive communication unrelated to physical therapy, including social media, text messages, or phone calls.
- Telling sexual jokes or stories.
- Dating a patient or client.
- Inviting a patient or client to lunch, dinner, or other social activities.



LICENSE VERIFICATION

To verify the status of a PT or PTA's license and disciplinary history, visit ptboard.nv.gov, or scan the code provided.



CONTACT US

Have questions or need assistance?
Get in touch with our team - we're ready to help.



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Nevada Physical Therapy Board

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SEXUAL BOUNDARIES IN PHYSICAL THERAPY

FOR PATIENTS & CLIENTS



WHAT IS SEXUAL MISCONDUCT?

Sexual misconduct is any verbal, nonverbal, or physical behavior that uses the PT or PTA relationship in a sexual way. This includes sexual comments, gestures, or conduct that a patient or client could reasonably view as sexual.

PTs and PTAs must never encourage sexual attention, suggest that sexual activity is part of treatment, or engage in sexual conduct with a patient or client. This behavior violates professional standards and can cause serious harm.



WHAT IS INFORMED CONSENT?

PTs and PTAs should clearly explain what will happen during your session and obtain your consent before beginning treatment. They should also check in with you during treatment to make sure you remain comfortable continuing.

You have the right to decline any procedure or to stop, refuse, or withdraw from physical therapy services at any time.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I SUSPECT INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT?

- If you suspect inappropriate conduct, file a complaint with the Nevada Physical Therapy Board. It may feel difficult to report concerns during an upsetting time, but a complaint helps begin the Board's review of the PT or PTA and the circumstances involved.
- The Board will investigate your complaint and notify you of the outcome when appropriate. Licensing boards are responsible for protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public.
- Depending on the circumstances, you may also want to contact local law enforcement.

If you feel uncomfortable at any time during your care, you may stop treatment. If a PT or PTA says or does something that makes you uneasy, you may say: "I do not feel comfortable. I would like to stop treatment."

Your comfort and consent matter. If something does not feel right, speak up. You have the right to ask questions, refuse any treatment, or end the session at any time.



DO YOU HAVE A PATIENT SAFETY CONCERN OR COMPLAINT?

If you are concerned about the care you received from a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant, you have options:

- Talk to your provider. Open communication can resolve many concerns.
- Speak with a clinic manager or administrator. You may be able to resolve the issue within the facility.
- File a formal complaint with the Nevada Physical Therapy Board.

A complaint to the Board helps the Board review the concern and determine whether further action is needed. The Board takes complaints seriously and reviews them as part of its responsibility to protect the public.

HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT

Submit a complaint using the Board's secure portal:

<https://nptb.portalus.thentiacloud.net/webs/portal/register/#/complaint>, or scan the code provided to access the complaint form online.

