

SUPPORT THE **REDUCE ACT (H.R. 7279)** TO CUT BACK ON ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN ON PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

Current Medicare regulations impose significant burdens on physical therapists. When senior patients need physical therapy (PT), restrictive rules require physical therapists to navigate a lengthy, cumbersome process to receive reimbursement for the medically necessary treatments they provide.

When a physician refers a patient to PT, they create and sign a referral. Upon seeing the patient for the first time, the physical therapist will conduct an examination and create a plan of care. But, despite already having a signed referral from the physician, Medicare requires therapists to secure another signature from the referring provider on the plan of care, which can take weeks and dedicated staff to track down approvals even when the physician has already recommended PT. If the physician fails to sign the paperwork within 30 days, the therapist is at risk for not receiving reimbursement by Medicare.

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Paperwork should not get in the way of providing medically necessary care. Fortunately, Congress has taken notice and is working to address this problem. The **Remove Duplicative Unnecessary Clerical Exchanges (REDUCE) Act (H.R. 7279)** would allow the plan of care to be deemed certified as long as it is submitted to the physician within 30 days.



CONGRESS: ELIMINATE REDUNDANT PAPERWORK REQUIREMENTS FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY

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