To: **Site Coordinators of Clinical Education**

From: Lynn English, PT, DPT, MSEd

 DCE, University of Kentucky

Re: **Reimbursement for student provided care - Medicare Part B**

As our University of Kentucky students begin their transitional clinical courses, I would like to clarify for you the status of reimbursement for student provided care for those patients/clients with Medicare Part B coverage.

The APTA Government Affairs update, June 2002 contains the following clarifying statements from the Site for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS):

**“The qualified practitioner is recognized by the Medicare Part B beneficiary as the responsible professional within any session when services are delivered.”**

**“The qualified practitioner is in the room for the entire session. The student participates in delivery of services when the qualified practitioner is directing the service, making the skilled judgment, and is responsible for the assessment and treatment.”**

**The qualified practitioner is present in the room guiding the student in service delivery when the student is participating in the provision of services and the practitioner is not engaged in treating another patient or doing other tasks at the same time.”**

**The qualified practitioner is responsible for the services, and as such signs all documentation…”**

Other suggestions:

1. The student may be a second pair of hands as needed while a therapist provides care.
2. The student may direct the therapist through the examination, evaluation and intervention process in order to develop clinical reasoning and problem-solving skills.
3. Involve the student in “hands-off” care such as peer review, quality assurance, and review of current literature in support of tests and measures and interventions for the older adult.

**This only applies to Medicare Part B.**

Our students have been informed of the above information and should be able to assist you in planning a productive and successful clinical rotation. Please call if you have any concerns or need further clarification.