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October 8, 2013

RECEIVED
PHYSICAL THERAPY BOARD
2013 OCT -9 PM 2:49

Arizona State Board of Physical Therapy
4205 North 7th Avenue
Suite 208
Phoenix, AZ 85013

BY: _____

RE: Dry Needling Use by Arizona Licensed Physical Therapists

Dear Mr. Brown and Members of the Board:

I am writing to express my alarm at the possibility that dry needling would be removed as a treatment modality available to physical therapists. Please accept this letter in support of continuing to allow physical therapists to use dry needling as a treatment modality for patients.

As a patient, I have gone to acupuncturists on numerous occasions and received successful treatments for a variety of conditions, almost all of which were musculoskeletal. I have also had several dry needling treatments applied by a physical therapist here in Arizona (Itamar Stern). I am a huge fan of acupuncture and have, in fact, gone to acupuncturists more frequently than I have received dry needling.

Acupuncture and dry needling are not the same thing!

Each treatment form is distinctly different! The knowledge and experience that a physical therapist has makes dry needling suited for delivery in that field. I would not go to an acupuncturist to receive dry needling; acupuncture is a different modality coming from a different system of medicine.

I hope my letter has an impact on the question you are considering. I would be happy to give a more detailed, layperson's explanation of the differences between acupuncture and dry needling from a patient perspective if it would be helpful to you. This is an important subject to me.

Sincerely,



Nancy Happel

cc: State of Arizona Acupuncture Board of Examiners