Intramuscular Manual Therapy (Dry Needling) Requirements

Each physical therapist who has achieved certification for using intramuscular manual therapy/dry needling for patient care must meet the following guidelines in order to be approved to practice dry needling in Mississippi:

1. Documented successful completion of an intramuscular manual therapy course of study; online study is not considered appropriate training.
2. A minimum of 50 hours of face-to-face IMS/dry needling course study;
3. Three years of practice as a licensed physical therapist prior to using the intramuscular manual therapy technique.
4. The physical therapist must have Board approved credentials for providing intramuscular manipulation which are on file with the Board office prior to using the treatment technique.

In its October 19, 2017 quarterly meeting, the Board voted on the documentation required for the approval of dry needling practice in Mississippi. If the physical therapist completed courses included on the Board’s list of Approved Dry Needling Courses, the only requirement is the presentation of certificates of completion verifying a minimum of 50 hours of training.

If a physical therapist selects courses that do not appear on the list of Approved Dry Needling Courses, the therapist must provide the following course documentation to support completion of the requirements listed in the regulations in Part 3103, Rule 1.3 (c)D 1-2.

1. Complete the Therapist Prior Approval Dry Needling form for each course and include the $50 fee
2. Description and overview of the course selected and completed by the physical therapist
3. Brochure or agenda that provides the number of hours of instruction/training
4. Educational course objectives
5. Resume or CV of instructor presenting the course
6. Certificate(s) of course completion

Please Note: All physical therapists must have received a letter of authorization from the Board prior to commencing the practice of dry needling for patient care.

Remember, the physical therapist must be familiar with Part 3101 Rule 1.3 (c) A-K.