

This report cost approximately \$410 for BPT to prepare including staff time and printing expenses. BMP expenses were approximately \$125 to extract data.

**Minnesota Board of Physical Therapy  
Biennial Report  
July 1, 1998-June 30, 2000**

**I. General Information**

**A. Board Mission and Major Functions**

**Board of Physical Therapy Mission**

The mission of the Board of Physical Therapy is to ensure Minnesota citizens receive quality physical therapy services from competent physical therapists.

**Major Functions of the Board of Physical Therapy**

**Ensure that applicants meet the standards for initial licensure**

- Reviewing individual applicant documentation for completion of requirements for initial licensure
- Reviewing foreign educated applicant documentation and supervised traineeship programs relative to requirements to ensure preparation is equivalent to U.S. applicants

**Ensure that physical therapists meet standards for license renewal**

- Reviewing individual licensee documentation relative to renewal requirements
- Auditing continuing education reports from a selected sample of the annual renewals
- Reviewing educational courses and internet courses to determine whether they meet requirements for continuing education credit approval

**Identify physical therapists who fail to maintain minimum standards necessary for the provision of safe and quality care, and when warranted, provide timely and appropriate disciplinary or corrective action.**

- Accepting complaints and reports from the public, health care providers, payers, and regulators
- Deciding whether the information submitted is sufficient and clear enough to initiate a complaint, and if not, then requesting additional information from the complainant.
- Deciding whether the complaint is jurisdictional, and if so what action is necessary to resolve the matter
- Referring inquiries and complaints to other investigative, regulatory, or assisting agencies

- Responding to complainants with reports of action taken to resolve complaints (within the constraints of data practices act)
- Seeking information directly from the licensee, and obtaining investigation information from other agencies, and/or consultants.
- Holding conferences with licensees to identify their role and responsibility in the matter under investigation
- Providing applicants and licensees with education to improve practice and prevent recurrence of problems
- Obtaining voluntary agreement or disciplinary action, or pursuing disciplinary action through a due process, contested case hearing, or potential court action.

**Provide accurate information and education to the public, other interested parties, and licensees**

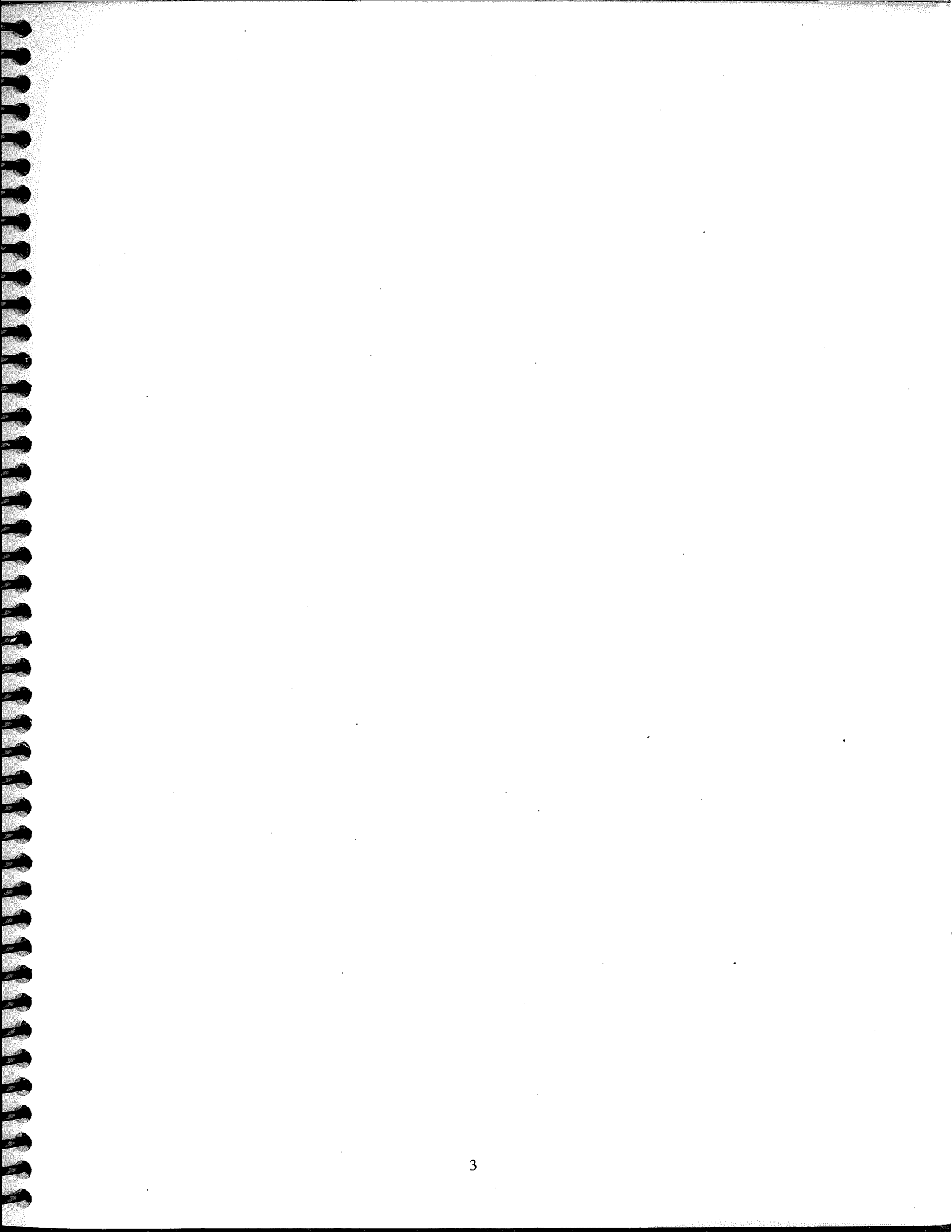
- Providing information to the public about the practice of physical therapy.
- Providing information to the public, employers, and other interested parties as to whether a person is licensed with the board and has been subject to any disciplinary action.
- Providing information to licensees to prevent inappropriate practice, to improve practice, and to improve awareness of practice act and rules.
- Reporting disciplinary actions to the National Practitioner Data Bank, and issuing press releases to the media.
- Providing information to applicants and licensees to facilitate initial and continuing licensure processes

**B. Major Activities During the Biennium**

- Revision to the Physical Therapy Practice Act established the Board of Physical Therapy on August 1, 1999.
- The Governor appointed the Board of Physical Therapy in March 2000.
- Staff administrative services have been provided under contract with the Board of Medical Practice during this biennium.
- Committees of the Board were established (administrative/personnel, licensure, complaint review, continuing education, and legislative)
- Personnel position description was written and interviews were initiated for the Executive Director. (Executive Director was hired in July 2000 to start in September)

**C. Emerging Issues Regarding Regulation of Physical Therapists**

- Future revisions to the physical therapy statute and rules are necessary to facilitate and clarify administrative and discipline processes. Areas to be addressed include: sexual misconduct, code of ethics, relocation of the rules for fees from the physician's practice act/rules, documentation and practice standards, and merging of rules into the practice act.
- The actual costs of disciplinary actions cannot be accurately predicted. A contested case would result in substantial increased costs from the office of the Attorney General.



## II. Board's Members, Staff, and Budget

### A. Board Composition

Statute requires the board to consist of nine members appointed by the Governor. This Board was appointed in March 2000. The persons holding the seats on June 30, 2000 are:

- Four physical therapists: Corinne Ellingham, Edina; Timothy Fedje, Rochester; Kathy Fleischaker, Eden Prairie; and Dennis Lutterman, Brainerd
- One licensed doctor of medicine: vacant on June 30, 2000, however Bruce Idelkope, MD of Minneapolis was appointed in August 2000
- Physical therapist assistant: Therese McDevitt, Minneapolis
- Three public members: Dinah Patrykus, Minneapolis; Jack Schaaf, St. Paul; and Don Sheffield, Minneapolis

### B. Employees

The Board has plans and budget for two full time employees (an executive director and an administrative support level position)

### C. Receipts and Disbursements and Major Fees Assessed by the Board

ITEM	FY 1999	FY 2000
Receipts	N/A	\$261,337
Disbursements	N/A	\$164,586

The Board of Physical Therapy was established on August 1, 1999. FY99 receipts and disbursements are included in Board of Medical Practice data.

FEES	Amount
Application	\$100
Annual Renewal	\$60
Late Fee	\$50
Examination Administrative fee	\$50
Continuing Education Course Approval	\$100

## III. Licensing and Registration

A. Persons Licensed as of June 30, 2000: 3,110 physical therapists

B. New Licenses Issued During Biennium: 430 new licenses

FY	New Licenses
1999	215
2000	215

## VI. Complaints

### A. Complaints Received

	FY99	FY00
Number of complaints received	27	15
Number of complaints per 1,000 licensees	9.01	4.82

COMPLAINT CATEGORY (by statute)	FY99	FY00
No person shall provide physical therapy unless licensed as a physical therapist	0	1
Conduct unbecoming a person licensed as a physical therapist or conduct detrimental to the best interests of the public	27	14

COMPLAINT SOURCES	FY99	FY00
License Renewal form	5	4
Anonymous to staff	0	2
Family member	0	1
Patient	3	2
Third Party	17	1
DHS	0	1
Licensed health professional	1	3
Self report	1	1
Totals	27	15

### B. Open Complaints on June 30, 2000

	FY 99	FY00
Open as of 6/30 of year	14	9
Open < 3 months	1	1
Open 3-6 months	3	4
Open 6-12 months	1	1
Open 12 months +	9	3

**C. Closed Complaints on June 30, 2000**

	FY 99	FY00
No. of cases closed that were open > 1 year	2	8

DISPOSITION ON COMPLAINTS	FY99	FY00
Revocation	0	0
Voluntary Surrender	0	0
Suspended with or without stay	0	1
Restricted or Limited or Conditional License	2	1
Civil Penalties	0	0
Reprimand	0	0
Agreement for Corrective Action	0	1
Referral to Health Professional Services Program	2	0
Dismissal or Closure	21	12

CORRECTIVE ACTION AGREEMENTS	FY99	FY00
Issued	0	1
Satisfied	1	0

STIPULATION and ORDERS	FY99	FY00
Issued	2	1

History: A total of 11 Stipulation and Orders have been issued to physical therapists. Physical therapists have been registered and licensed by the state since 1951. The first stipulation and order was issued in 1973.

**IV. Trend Data as of June 30, 2000**

	Number of PTs licensed on 6/30 of year	Number of complaints received	Number of complaints received per 1,000 licensees	Number of open complaints on 6/30 of year
FY 00	3110	15	4.82	9
FY99	2997	27	9.01	14
FY98	2877	20	6.95	15
FY97	2786	13	4.67	9
FY96	2691	11	4.09	8
FY95	2619	9	3.44	3
FY94	2591	6	2.32	17
FY93	2591	22	8.49	21
FY92	2585	7	2.71	8
FY91	2639	7	2.65	7
FY90	2532	7	2.76	8