



Sports Specialty Council

Acute Management of Injury & Illness

Requirements & Content Outline

Acute Management of Injury and Illness

- The Sports Specialty Council recognizes the need of sports physical therapists to demonstrate continuous competency in all content areas identified in the *Sports Description of Specialty Practice (DSP)*. One of the hallmark areas identified in the DSP that delineates a sports physical therapist, *Acute Management of Injury and Illness*. Thus, the all physical therapists who wish to become Board-certified Sports Clinical Specialists must possess certification through continuing education credits in Acute Management of Injury and Illness for conditions encountered in sports medicine.
- **Requirements** of this certification are as follows:
 - In order to be eligible to sit for **initial certification**:
 - Applicants must complete a face-to-face or mixed-delivery continuing education course (content outline specified below)
 - Course must be no less than 14 total hours in duration
 - Course must include at least 7 hours of face-to-face instruction with inclusion of hands-on activities
 - Course must include both didactic and clinical instruction
 - Course must include didactic and clinical testing
 - For **recertification** and during **each MOSC period** (3 year cycle)
 - Each certified specialist must have completed a continuing education course (content outline below)
 - Course must be no less than 7 hours in duration
 - Course can be in any educational format, face-to-face, online, or mixed-delivery
 - The above continuing education courses can be offered by any entity that is serving as a continuing education provider and awarding continuing education contact hours &/or units within the physical therapy jurisdiction. University, College, or other coursework by a certified educational agency also qualifies as long as the content areas outlined below are satisfied.

- **Content areas** that must be included in the course are as follows:
 - Emergency management systems
 - Legal Issues
 - Disease transmission
 - Primary & Secondary Assessment
 - Airway Emergencies & Oxygen
 - Epipen Administration
 - Chain of Survival & Cardiac Emergencies
 - Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
 - Automated external defibrillation
 - Injury incidence, etiology, & management
 - Bleeding & wound management
 - Head injuries
 - Concussion management
 - Spine injuries
 - Equipment removal
 - Spine boarding
 - Facial injuries
 - Nasal and ocular
 - Chest, thorax, and abdominal injuries
 - Injuries to the extremities
 - Fracture & dislocation management

- **Preapproved courses:** [Click here](#) for list of courses approved through APTA Sports Section and additional pre-approved by the Sports Specialty Council.