

## **Cancer Rehabilitation across the Continuum of Care: What is the Role of Physical Therapy**

Speakers: Diane M. Heislein, PT, DPT, MS, OCS; Boston University, Boston, MA & Andrea M. Bonanno, PT, DPT, GCS, CLT; Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA.

Committee Liaison: Bob Dorman, PT, GCS

It is estimated that 1.5 million new cases of cancer will be diagnosed this year with over 11.4 million cancer survivors living in the US.<sup>1</sup> Both the disease process itself and the medical treatments available for cancer can result in multiple impairments, activity limitations, and participation restrictions which physical therapists are uniquely qualified to address. This workshop will provide a systems-based framework for examination, evaluation, and intervention for patients with oncology diagnoses. The complex process of diagnosis, medical and surgical treatments, and the common side effects<sup>2-4</sup> that impact rehabilitation will be reviewed to link these aspects of patient management to the rehabilitation process. Evidence based exercise interventions<sup>5-13</sup> and the changing role in rehabilitation across the continuum of care including the unique challenges of survivorship will be presented. The advantages and disadvantages of currently available outcome assessment tools for use in oncology rehabilitation will be discussed<sup>14</sup>. A comprehensive case study will demonstrate the role of the physical therapist as an integral member of the patient care team to provide interventions for the cardiopulmonary, musculoskeletal, neuromuscular, and integumentary systems of a patient with cancer. This case will illustrate the rehabilitation care provided in the inpatient and outpatient settings across the continuum of care from early active treatment through recovery and survivorship.

Time: 2:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (Total contact hours: 3)

Course segments:

2:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. (1.5 hours)

Break: 3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. (1.5 hours)

