



*Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
Board of Physical Therapy Examiners*

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September 18, 1997

Jan Dommerholt, MPS, P.T.  
5101 Fairglen Lane  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815-6516

Dear Mr. Dommerholt:

Thank you for providing the course brochure for the course, "Intramuscular Stimulation (IMS)" to be offered by C. Chan Gunn, MD, in Vancouver, BC on January 10-14, 1998 and March 14-18, 1998. The Board reviewed it at its meeting on September 16.

It is the opinion of the Board that there is nothing in the Physical Therapy Statute, Health Occupations Article, Title 13, Annotated Code of Maryland to preclude a physical therapist from performing intramuscular stimulation (IMS) by dry needling if adequate training and competency can be demonstrated. The Board refers you to COMAR 10.38.03.02-Q which states, "The physical therapist shall work within the physical therapist's competency in physical therapy evaluation and treatment." The Board feels that physical therapists, especially those with manual therapy skills, are qualified to perform the dry needling technique.

Good luck in being accepted to the course. The Board would be interested in any information you would like to share about IMS in the future.

Sincerely,

Charles M. Dilla, P.T.  
Chairman