

JGAC of APTA Home Health & APTA Geriatrics: Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2025 • 90 mins • [View Meeting](#) or [Ask Fathom](#)

ACTION ITEMS ✨

- ☐ **Create Google Drive folder for committee, share with members**
Eva Norman
- ☐ **Follow up with Kim Thompson re: committee term length discrepancy**
Ellen Strunk
- ☐ **Record podcast on home health proposed rule for early July release**
Ellen Strunk
- ☐ **Write newsletter article on all-payer implementation for July 1**
Ellen Strunk
- ☐ **Share link to home health proposed rule when published**
Ellen Strunk
- ☐ **Write article introducing new committee members for both academies**
Eva Norman
- ☐ **Meet w/ APTA Geriatrics re: updating geriatrics webpage to match home health**
Eva Norman
- ☐ **Meet w/ APTA Geriatrics re: updating geriatrics webpage to match home health**
Ellen Strunk

MEETING SUMMARY ✨

Meeting Purpose

To introduce new members to the Joint Governmental Affairs Committee for APTA Home Health and Geriatrics and discuss ongoing advocacy efforts and initiatives.

Key Takeaways

- The committee welcomed 5 new members, expanding representation across home health and geriatrics

- Current legislative focus is on budget reconciliation bill H.R. 1, which includes provisions affecting Medicare fee schedules, Medicaid, and student loans
- APTA Capitol Hill Day is July 14-15, with ~475 participants registered so far
- Task forces and educational resources (podcasts, articles) are being developed to engage members on key issues

Topics

Committee Introductions

- Eva Norman and Ellen Strunk are co-chairs, representing APTA Geriatrics and Home Health respectively
- New members include Kevin Cezat, Amy Hedrick, Jamie Kuettel, Silke Mildenberger, and Steven Osovsky, bringing diverse experience across geriatrics, home health, and other PT settings
- Justin Elliott (VP of Government Affairs) and Michael Matlack (Director of Grassroots/Political Affairs) represent APTA staff

Congressional/Regulatory Update

- H.R. 1 budget reconciliation bill passed House, now in Senate
- Key provisions:
 - \$9 billion for Medicare fee schedule, including annual payment increases based on Medicare Economic Index (MEI)
 - \$700 billion in Medicaid cuts through eligibility/work requirements
 - Changes to student loan interest subsidies and Grad PLUS loans
 - Tax deduction for overtime pay for salaried non-exempt employees
- Senate version likely to differ; final passage timeline uncertain

APTA Capitol Hill Day (July 14-15)

- ~475 participants registered so far
- July 14: Issue briefings and state delegation planning
- July 15: Congressional meetings
- PT-PAC fundraising event on July 14
- SAFE Act position paper being finalized as leave-behind document

Committee Charter Overview

- 3-year terms for members
- Focus on payment policies, access to PT services, member engagement, grassroots advocacy
- Roles include monitoring federal issues, education/communication, mentorship

Task Forces and Member Surveys

- Potential task force topics: telehealth, payment reform, regulatory policy, clinical documentation
- Recent member survey identified top issues: Home Health Final Rule, behavioral adjustment, telehealth
- Committee to determine task force priorities and deliverables

Educational Resources

- Upcoming podcast on Home Health proposed rule (early July)
- Newsletter article on all-payer implementation (July 1)
- Seeking committee members to contribute content for podcasts/articles
- Working to update APTA Geriatrics website content

Next Steps

- Share Google Drive folder with committee documents
- Follow up on discrepancy in member term lengths
- Determine task force priorities and goals
- Schedule meeting with APTA Geriatrics to discuss website updates
- Committee members to consider writing articles/podcasts and leading task forces

Respectfully submitted by Eva Norman, PT, DPT and AI