JGAC Meeting for APTA Home Health & APTA Geriatrics

September 11, 2025 • 67 mins • View Meeting or Ask Fathom

ACTION ITEMS		
		Record video for upcoming action alert. Mention to watch for APTA email w/ action center link. Philip Goldsmith
		Write article on SAFE Act w/ real-life scenarios. Check Google Drive for Kevin's previous article to avoid redundancy. Jamie Kuettel
		Co-lead telehealth & digital care policy task force w/ Kevin. Await further instructions from Eva. Steve Osovsky
		Co-lead telehealth & digital care policy task force w/ Steve. Await further instructions from Eva. Kevin Cezat
		1) Email 2 interested members re: telehealth task force. 2) Meet w/ Faith Majors Culp next week re: social media help. 4) Inform Christina about Faith posting on APTA Geriatrics social media. Eva Norman
	ME	ETING SUMMARY 🕻

Meeting Purpose

To provide updates and discuss initiatives for the APTA Home Health and Geriatrics Government Affairs Committee.

Key Takeaways

- Congress faces a potential government shutdown on September 30th; telehealth waivers also expire then
- Home Health Stabilization Act (H.R. 5142) introduced to prevent cuts in 2026-2027
- New task force on telehealth and digital care policy to be formed
- Successful advocacy meetings held during August recess with congressional offices
- Website updates progressing for both Home Health and Geriatrics sections

Topics

Congressional Update

- Government funding expires September 30th; short-term extension likely
- Telehealth waivers also expire Sept 30th; expected to be extended in funding package
- SAFE Act gaining momentum in Senate; Falls Prevention Awareness Week Sept 22-26
- Home Health Stabilization Act (H.R. 5142) introduced; prevents 2026-2027 cuts
- APTA creating action alert for members to support H.R. 5142

Student Loan Policy

- Dept of Education determining professional vs. graduate degree categories
- \$200k lifetime loan limit for professional degrees vs \$100k for graduate
- APTA advocating for PT to remain in professional category

Regulatory Updates

- Comment period closed for 2026 home health proposed rule
- Fee schedule comments due tomorrow; APTA submitted extensive comments
- 950,000 comments received on home health rule (unconfirmed number)

Task Force Formation

- New task force on telehealth and digital care policy to be formed
- Kevin and Steve to co-lead; additional members to be recruited

Advocacy Activities

- Successful meetings held with congressional offices during August recess
- Silke met with Sen. Gallego's health aide in Arizona
- Beth attended fundraiser for Rep. Stansberry, a SAFE Act sponsor
- Eva met with Rep. Frankel's COS in hospital while visiting her mother

Communications

- Faith Majors Culp to assist with APTA Geriatrics social media
- Stacey Fisher continuing social media for Home Health section
- Need to designate liaison to provide content to social media managers

Website Updates

- Home Health website largely complete; member feedback requested
- Working with Alex on APTA Geriatrics website updates

Next Steps

- Launch telehealth/digital care policy task force; recruit additional members
- Support student-led Flash Action Strategy advocacy on SAFE Act (Sept 16-18)
- Create action alert for members to support Home Health Stabilization Act
- Follow up with potential key contact recruits, especially in unrepresented districts
- Continue website updates, especially for APTA Geriatrics section
- Develop article ideas on key contact recruitment and other priority topics