



matters



hand

Hand Therapy Certification Commission, Inc.

Spring 2003

www.htcc.org

HTCC turns its Vision into a Business Plan

The Vision of HTCC is that *every qualified hand therapist who treats hand patients will be a Certified Hand Therapist*. What business functions has HTCC developed or refined to reach that end?

2001 Practice Analysis Sets Framework for the Future

The 2001 Practice Analysis allowed HTCC to clearly define who is a qualified hand therapist, as well as the scope of practice of hand therapy. The results of that study and hand therapy competencies were published in the *Journal of Hand Therapy* in 2002 and 2003. Both articles can also be downloaded from the HTCC website as free PDF publications.

Certifying Therapists Worldwide

To help determine the feasibility of certifying therapists outside of North America, HTCC has begun to study practice in other countries. Starting with Great Britain, Australia, and South Africa (based on expressed interest in those countries), HTCC found that practice in Great Britain and Australia is very consistent with that of the United States and Canada. As a result, HTCC now accepts hours from those countries for both certification and recertification and has established a test site in Sydney, Australia for the 2003 examination. More information about that can be found on page 6. Unfortunately, surveys from South Africa were lost in shipping as a result of heightened security following September 11th, so practice there could not be analyzed.

Based on the "Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act," which establishes practice reciprocity between New Zealand and Australia, the HTCC Board of Directors has added New Zealand to the list of countries where hours may be accrued to meet the eligibility requirements for certification and recertification. This means that New Zealand CHTs can recertify and hand therapists in New Zealand may take the exam.

HTCC is now developing an online practice analysis process, which will allow hand therapists in other countries to determine if their practice is consistent with the other countries we have studied. Professional Examination Service will analyze the results for each country on an ongoing basis, and the HTCC Board of Directors will review it. If practice is found to be consistent, those countries could qualify for the exam. Expanding the reach of the CHT credential worldwide would establish an international standard for patient care.

Online Applications

With more than 3,600 therapists scattered throughout the world, in different time zones and with busy clinic schedules, HTCC has developed online application processes for both certification and recertification, so it's easier for anyone, anywhere, anytime to register for the exam or to become recertified. (See page 3 for more information.)

Recertification

In response to requests from CHTs not to have to pay for the Recertification Handbook, the current handbook is

now available as a free PDF publication on the HTCC website. For those who want a printed copy in a notebook, it is still available for sale.

The online tracking process for Professional Development Activities means that a CHT can attend a course on a weekend, enter the hours on Sunday evening, fax us their certificate and have it approved Monday morning. Real time approval means that CHTs will find it easier to recertify - no more guessing or worrying about whether a course will be accepted and what category it fits into. This should make planning continuing education easier for everyone.

Brand and Image Updated

HTCC knows it is important to communicate the value of the CHT credential to the public. Assuring the quality of the credential increases its value to the consumer. In 2002, HTCC determined that a "brand image" of the Certified Hand Therapist was needed, so the public would be able to recognize the CHT credential more readily. The website changes, logo revisions and images are based on feedback from therapists obtained through a website survey and the Practice Analysis.

The logo was refined and visual images were added to the website and print publications (for a history of the CHT logo, see page 2). This year clinical photos will be added to reflect CHT skills. On the website, the information available to the public has been enhanced. The directory will have more search features and will display

(Continued on page 3)

The Recognized Specialist in Hand Therapy.



Dear HTCC,

I was thrilled to receive my new updated CHT pin – a beautiful design, which I am proud to wear. Thank you!

After working for the last 33 years – 15 treating in Hand Therapy – I am grateful for the CHT community. I am inspired and motivated to care for and give my best to my patients – it is a privilege to be of such service.

Jillian Moon, RPT, CHT

HTCC Board of Directors

President

Lynlee Fullenwider, OTR/L, CHT

Vice-President

Nancy Cannon, OTR, CHT

Treasurer

Mary Dimick, OTR, CHT

Secretary

Lauren Valdata Eddington, RPT, CHT

Board Members

Brenda Hilfrank, PT, CHT

Keri Landrieu, LOTR, CHT

Georgiann Laseter, OTR, FAOTA, CHT

Roy A. Meals, M.D.

Jan Newsom, J.D.

Patricia A. Taylor, PT, CHT

Anna Mae Tan, OTR, CHT

Staff

Executive Director

Mary C. Kasch, OTR, CHT, FAOTA

Associate Executive Director

Linda Mauer

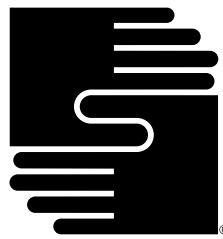
History of the CHT Logo

In 1989, HTCC incorporated separately from the American Society of Hand Therapists (ASHT) and needed a logo. Judy Colditz, OTR/L, CHT, FAOTA, who was President of



ASHT at the time, contacted HTCC with a suggestion. She recalled, “When I heard HTCC was looking for a logo, I immediately thought of an image on a poster I had been involved in developing for fund raising for ASHT. This poster image was drawn by Carol Pienta, a professional medical illustrator. She and I brainstormed on the concept, and I posed my hands for her to draw. The image is of one hand holding a large ring on the top and another hand holding onto the bottom of the ring. Included in the center of the ring is a quote from the Bible: ‘Two are better than one for they have a good return for their labor. If either of them falls the one will lift up his companion.’ Ecclesiastes, 4:9, 10.

“This poster symbolized for me the therapist-patient relationship through the journey of rehabilitation and seemed an appropriate image to represent the specialists who became Certified Hand Therapists. The image was stylized from its original realist form and the quote eliminated to transform the art poster into a graphic image that could be easily reproduced.”



HTCC used this logo from its inception until 1991, when the “intertwined hands” logo was formally adopted by the HTCC Board of Directors. Diane Wilde, from Wolfe Design Marketing in Sacramento, developed the second logo. Diane and Mary Kasch worked together on the concept of the logo. Diane remembers, “We wanted to utilize two hands, representing not only the therapist/patient relationship, but also the two professions of Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy working together.”

In the summer of 2002, HTCC posted a brand and image survey on the homepage of the website. Many CHTs responded to this survey, commenting that the logo was a strong and recognizable image, but that it was somewhat dated and boxy looking. They also offered their impressions of Certified Hand Therapists, using words like: highly skilled, dedicated, knowledgeable, expert, competent, confident, clinical excellence, motivated, and top professional.



The Marketing Committee took this information, as well as information from the 2001 Practice Analysis, and worked with Brian Bibler, HTCC’s graphic designer, to update the “look and feel” of the CHT credential to better reflect who a CHT is. The new logo is a revision of the original logo. The two interlocking hands have been updated. The hands are now rounded and more realistic looking, making them easier to identify as hands.

The Marketing Committee felt that the previous tagline, or slogan, “The Ultimate Recognition in Hand Therapy,” did not convey the expertise of Certified Hand Therapists. The new phrase, **The Recognized Specialist in Hand Therapy**, will present a stronger image of CHTs to the public and better reflects the high level of professionalism held by CHTs.

In addition to these changes, HTCC has developed graphic standards with a library of images and colors that will be used consistently. This new look can be found on the HTCC website, advertisements in professional publications, and HTCC publications.

A new CHT pin was sent to all CHTs in February 2003. Please contact the HTCC office if you did not receive a pin. Additional pins and new logo items will be available for purchase through the new website store.

We hope you like the new CHT look!

Recertification Application Options

A. Recertify by Professional Development

Apply Online

To prepare for Recertification Online, therapists must enter their Professional Development Hours (work experience and continuing education) in CHTs Only. This can be done at any time. Once the supporting documentation is faxed or mailed to HTCC, the hours are usually approved within three business days.

Steps in the online Recertification Application:

1. HTCC will calculate and verify that you have previously entered, and had approved, the correct number of Professional Development Hours (formerly called Continuing Education and Work Experience) online. If you do not have the correct number of hours in the correct categories (e.g. less than 36 hours in Category A), you will not be able to proceed with the online application.

If you are eligible, you will then:

2. Confirm that you have a current credential to practice in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Australia, or New Zealand. Depending on your profession and where you practice, a professional credential may include a license, certificate, or registration. In all cases, it is the credential you need to legally practice in that location.
3. Review & sign-off on the Disciplinary Policy.
4. Complete the Recertification Consent Form.
5. Review & update your information in the database.
6. Pay your reduced online Recertification Fee of \$300 by submitting a credit card on our secure server.

Apply by Mail

1. Download The Handbook

CHTs can download the Recertification Handbook from the website for free. The handbook has all the current information needed for Recertification and can be used as a planning tool as well as for applying to recertify.

2. Order a Printed Handbook

If you prefer a printed handbook in a notebook, you can order it from the HTCC office for \$35, using a check or credit card. If you have entered and had your Professional Development Activities approved previously, you can just print the summaries and include them with your mailed application.

B. Recertify by Exam

Any CHT can take the examination. The only requirement is that you have a current professional credential to practice as described above. You can apply online to take the test, or you can order a Recertification Handbook and apply by mail. If you download the handbook from the website, call the HTCC office, and we will send you a scantron form. There is no charge for the form.

C. Apply for Inactive Status

If you are going to apply for Inactive Status rather than recertify this year, the only form you need to submit is the Inactive Status Application. You can download the form on the website or contact the HTCC office. Please note that you can now be Inactive for up to five years, rather than the two years previously allowed.

Entering Professional Development Activities

You may enter your Professional Development Activities at any time in CHTs Only. To learn how, review the enclosed User's Guide for Entering Professional Development Activities.

2002 Recertification Statistics

Applications Received

1992	92%
1997	100%

Application Status

Total Submitted	567
Recertified by:	
Exam (10)	2%
Work Experience and Continuing Ed (526)	93%
Became Inactive (31)	5%

Did Not Renew (35) 6%

Business Plan

(continued from page 1)

complete work information. The online directory can be used as an important marketing tool for CHTs to highlight their special skills and services for the public, since the online directory is the most frequently accessed public page of the website. New to the site is an online verification process, so that credentialing agencies can easily determine that a CHT is in good standing with HTCC. Over the coming year, HTCC will revise the very popular CHT brochure. HTCC will also develop marketing materials for occupational therapy and physical therapy students and add new logo items to the market place. Some marketing pieces will be provided to CHTs at no charge.

Keeping Connected

It is the goal of HTCC to keep connected to all CHTs. One way this is done is by making all website functions occur in real time for faster processing and better feedback. For those without access to technology during the day, there is a toll free number that is available throughout North America.

Enclosed in this mailing is a data update sheet from HTCC. The only way the website can provide meaningful information is if the data is correct. Please review it carefully and return it promptly. Better yet, go to CHTs Only today and update your profile. Keep your profile information updated so you don't miss out on valuable email notifications – the fastest way to stay in touch.

See how our business processes are changing by checking out the new website and watching for CHT news items on the home page, as these change frequently. Finally, as always, contact us if you have questions or just to tell us how we are doing.

Lynnlee Fullenwider, OTR/L, CHT
HTCC President

Congratulations to the

The Hand Therapy Certification Commission congratulates the following new CHTs who passed the November 2001 education and work experience. These therapists have attained the CHT certification and are permitted to use the CHT

2001 CHTs

Abboud, Kristin
Accra, Dana
Adair, Will
Adams, Stephen
Agard, Linda
Agnew, Lynn
Alfonso, Ana
Alford, Jane
Allison, Michele
Alpers, Curtis
Anderson, Hamish
Anderson, Todd
Andrews, Timothy
Arte, Deepali
Ashman, Kelly
Avery, Sharon
Babcock, Ann
Bailey, Mary
Barfield, Amy
Barker, Laura
Barnes, Michael
Basinger, Kristen
Bates, Laura
Baxter, Kristen
Baylor, Diane
Beamer, Mary
Beaulieu, Kathleen
Belden, Julie
Bellace, John
Berry, Karen
Bettes, Kelly
Biglin, Heidi
Bilinsky, Bonnie
Boda, Sharalee
Bondoc, Salvador
Bontekoe, Rae
Bonville, Angele
Bostic, Amy
Boxberger, Marjorie
Brininger, Teresa
Broadwater, Revajo
Brooks, Karen
Buckner, Lisa
Burgeson, Vaughn
Byron, Denver
Cabling, Fernando
Capobianco, Jennifer
Capoccioni, Mary
Carman, Melissa
Carr, Susan
Carrera, Mery
Carrozza, Claire
Chow, Yik
Christesen, Lydia
Churry, Gloria
Cifarelli, Mark
Cisewski, Loretta
Clendenning, Kristin
Cobb, Amy
Cochran, Kimberly
Coffelt, Laureen

Coker, Kellie
Cook, Vana
Cooper, Cheryl
Copuaco, Monina
*Côté, Brian
Couture, Jacqueline
Cox, Catherine
Craven, Darcy
Cricchio, Michael
Croghan, Beth
Culross, Erin
Curley, Suzanne
Dalziel, Jennifer
Danner, Tania
Davidson, Craig
Davies, Abigail
Davis, Gail
Davis-Cheshire, Michael
Deckert, M M Johanna
Della Porta, Linda
Delp, Jodi
Demetriou, Alexandra
Dewey, William
Dibble, Jane
Dodson, Maureen
Dodson, William
*Dorer, Robert
Dreibelbis, Mark
Dubea, Julie
Duffy-Jeglum, Erin
Dutton, Alyson
Eckel, Emily
Eckenrode, Elizabeth
Ellenburg, Kaci
Epps, Audrey
Estrela, Shelley
Evans, Richard
Falla, Julie
Federico, Marilyn
Fennell, Kathleen
Ferland, Kimberly
Fernandez, Myra
Ferrari-Ramirez, Ann
Ferri, Laurie
Field, Cathy
Fiore, Edward
Fisher, Sharon
Fisher, Sybil
Fleig, Erin
Forbis, Jean
Franklin, Bridgett
Fraser, Trevor
Frysiner, Veronica
Fu, Cheching
Gadberry, Laura
Gardiner, Deborah
Garrett, Jana
Garstka, Lynn
Getman-Weissberg, Susan
Gibson, Daniel
Gibson, Karen
Gilbert, Hugh
Gillenson, Sally

Gilzon, Boris
Ginocchio, Susan
Goble, Lisa
Gokey, Margaret
Goldsmith, JOY
Gonzalez, Sandra
Gouws, Theresa
Grand, Lauren
Griffin, Jack
Griffin-Reed, Nancy
Gushnike, Lynne
Guthrie, Mary
Gutzman, Troy
Hall, Edwin
Hamati, Debra
Hampton, Laura
Hardon, Emily
Harper, Jeanne
Harris, Brooke
Hartman, Sandra
Hatchell, Kellie
Hatcher, John
Hawkins, Linda
Healy, Mark
Hebbeler, Anne
Heermann, Debra
Henderson, Mel
Hendricks, Shannon
Henley, Elizabeth
Herman, Mojca
Ho, Derek
Hobson, Luan
Hock, Nancy
Hoeg, Amy
Hoffman, Leslie
Hohowski, Carol
Holford, Glenda
Holland, Katina
Holland, Lurlyne
Howard, Carol
Hughes, Paige
Hunt, Paige
Hurst, Linda
Hymel, Miskel
Ito, Marcia
Jacobson, Kimberly
Jeter, Emily
Jonsson, Pauline
Jordan, Ann
Jordan, Chad
Kadin-Meiselman, Helen
Kagan, Danielle
Kealey, Kristine
Keller, JoAnn
Kennedy, Charlotte
King, Sheila
Klesat, Jennifer
Koch, Jana
Koerner, Patricia
Komai, Aileen
Kraft, Kimberly
Kramer, Kay
Kronen, Michael

Kutch, Nicole
Kuzminski, Suzanne
Laney, Brian
Laperouse, Expadie
Lari, Jean
Larkin, Geraldine
Latchford, Christopher
Laurento, David
Lavespere, Anna
Lees, Patricia
LeMasurier, Laurie
Lewis, Barbara
Lewis, John
Lim, Steve
*Lisak, Janet
Long, Renee
Lowrance, Kristen
Loyd, Kathleen
MacDonald, Hazel
Maggiore, Lisa
Maldonado-Baker, Edna
March, William
Marks, Elisa
*Marthis, Dawn
Martin, Dennis
Martins, Carlos
Massey, Kenneth
Mazzocco, Amanda
McCaffrey, Maria
McCambridge, Rebecca
McCormack, Karen
McGinnis, Joel
McKee, Tammy
McLelland, Amy
McVeigh, Kimberly
Megargee, Tiffany
Meier, Charles
Mendoza, Maria
Michel, Deborah
Miller, Kari
Montgomery, Erica
Moon, F. Jillian
Morris, Yvonne
Morton, Sheila
Moss, Angela
Moulton, Dana
Mundrane-Zweiacher, Mary
Nava, Jesse
Nielson-Jones, Kristen
Nordstrom, Carol
O'Connell, Mark
Ohara, Kathleen
Olson, Kimberly
Orr, Eric
Osborne, Claire
Otani, Jill
Palinkas, Judith
Panscik, Magdalena
Papadopoulos, Eugenia
Paquet, Julie
Paulo, Jerry
Paulson, Amy
Payne, Sandra

Peabody, Melissa
Pennyuff, Diane
Persons, Sharon
Peterson, Phyllis
Phillips, Arthur
Phillips, Debra
Phillips, Dina
Pickett, Larissa
Pimentel, K. Lindsay
Pletcher, Mary
Pohnert, Tami
Pokorski, Heidi
Polaneczky, Gina
Popiel, Kathryn
Puleo, Donna
Pyles-Reiten, Charlotte
Quan, Maria
Raddalgoda, Sidath
Rambis, Kristi
*Ramsey, Mark
Reider, Carolyn
Reischl, Donna
Rexing, Joyce
Rhoads, Debra
Rhodes, Brant
Rink, Victoria
Robinson, Gary
Rodriguez, Dorinda
Rodriguez Jr., Carlos
Rohrbach-Kim, Shawn
Roldan, Susan
Roselli, Nick
Ross, Elizabeth
Roux, Amy
Sahu, Pradipta
Sanchez, Margery
Schaffitzel, Wendi
Schiff, Wendy
Schmidt, Linda
Schoening, Pamela
Schofield, Krista
Schreiner, Jodi
Schultze, Kathleen
Schulz, Katherine
Schuppe, Victoria
Schwalbe, Ilanna
Scott, Kerri
Seebohm, Lauren
Selfe, Heather
Sellers, Terri
Shah, Sejal
Sharpe, Andrew
Shelton, Sara
Sherman, Jule
Simmons, Veronica
Sims, Vicki
Skobba, Teresa
Slade, Karen
Smail, Katherine
Smith, Laura
Smith, Shannon
Staeben, James
Staines, Kimberly

Steenstra, Dieuwke
Stonewall, Laurie
Strainer, Lisa
Sullivan, Karen
Tanner, Jeanne
Taylor, Alison
Taylor, Angela
Thomas, Pam
Thomas, Timothy
Thurnbeck, Mark
Tran, Thanh-Van
Tsui, Winnie
Turenne, Monique
Turner, Amy
Valliere, Angela
Vargo, Elizabeth
Vitale, Virginia
Vitiello, Laurie
Wagenbrenner, Joanne
Wagner, James
Walter-Thomas, Julie
Walters, Laurie
Walters, Melissa
Wantz, Kelly
Wasilko, Roberta
Watson, Christine
Watterson Herzberger, Tracey
Weaver, Gayle
Weeden, Carla
Wensley, Linda
West, Linda
White, Janice
Williams, Deborah
Wong, Anna
Wong, Josephine
Wood, Jennifer
Woodard, Donald
Wulf, Carin
Yakobina, Sheila
Yakobina, Stephanie
Yedlicka, Julie
Yim, Kyong
Yoder, Angela
Young, Krisi
Zappettini, Donna
Zaro, Bridget
Zeske, Kimberly

2001 and 2002 CHTs.

and November 2002 Hand Therapy Certification Examination, after meeting the requirements for formal designated CHT mark following their name. An (*) indicates that the CHT credential was renewed by examination.

2002 CHTs

Adelsberger, Lauren
Aitkens, Lorna
Alba, Christina
Alexander, Sherry
Anderson, Patricia
Anderson, Amy
Anderson, Linda
Armitage, Jodi
Arora Driver, Preeti
August, Jeff
Auletta, Lori
Bahl, Minni
Bailey, Lynne
Banister, Donna
Bano, Kraig
Bardwell, Melissa
Bela, Bridget
Bell, David
Bell, Leslie
Benavides, Lynne
Benet, Christine
Bennett, Brett
Benzie, Tonya
Bergholdt, Klara
Berke McLaughlin, Andrea
Berth, Tiffany
Best, Christopher
Best, Catherine
Bestick, Mark
Bestrop, Llewella
Biffoni, Sharon
Bjomson, Michelle
Blachly, Kay
Blen, Karin
Boland, Ann
Bonamo, Julie
Borchers, Loralee
Borst, Michael
Bowen, Regina
Bowers, Christy
Brainard, Susan
Brandt, Lisba
Branham, James
Branton, Terra
Brawley, Glenda
Brewer, Bailey
Brezney Pyatt, Barbara
Bright, Zenda
Brisport, Alton
Brock, Anna
Brown, Rita
Brown, Jacquelyn
Brummer, Eric
*Burke, Bridget
Butenhoff, Carla
Calafiore, Jessi
Cancio, Leonard
Cape, Evelyn
Carpentier, Michele
Celaya, Cristina
Cerciello, Theresa

Chanoi, Joseph
Chapman, Bobbi
Childers Deaton, Kimberly
Chinn, Deborah
Choe, Lisa
Christenson, Ricky
Cohan, Teresa
Colaiani, Donna
Conley, Angela
Cooper Rauch, Susan
Coss, Darla
Cowan, April
Cozzolino, Kathryn
Craft, Sheila
Creamer, Louisa
Crebbin, Patrick
Crisler, Joseph
*Cross, Mary
Cruise, Amy
Cubelli, Kate
Cullip, Robin
Curry, Jennifer
Curtis, Kevin
Dalomba, John
Daryanani, Amie
Daugherty, Stephanie
De Yoe, Jennifer
De Young, Jennifer
Deegan, Misty
Defley, Michele
Degen, Daniel
Delost, Matthew
Denham, Susan
Dennis, Karan
Derry, Elizabeth
Detels, Edward
Dewhirst, Audrey
Diamond, Leslie
Douglas, Richard
*Dow-Royer, Cathy
Dowil, Sara
Dowling, Michelle
Earnest, Brad
Eisman, Andria
Elliott, Francine
Elsinger, Jennifer
Emmanere, Judith
Erickson, Roberta
Erickson, Mia
Estep, Lydia
Etayeb, Mary
Fagan, Margaret
Fahey, Ann
Fazal, Saba
Fickel, Laura
Figueira, Renee
Fish, Monica
Fitzgerald, Coreen
Freeman, Susan
Freeman, Ramona
Freeman, Judith
Friske, Elizabeth
Funai, Lori

Gammon, Chris
Garvin, Ann
Gause, Donna
Gay, Patricia
Gearing, Aldine
Gentry, Amanda
Gerger, Wendy
Gettings, Scott
Gilkey, Leesa
Gimbel, Maryann
Good, Michelle
Gorman, Shari
Gostin, Julie
Goucher, Judy
Grispino, Frank
Groux, Sarah
Hagan, Laura
Hall, Elizabeth
Hammer, Lauren
Haney, Elizabeth
*Hanson, Robert
Harrison, Christel
Heck, Jennifer
Heinitz, Elizabeth
Heinzelman, Keith
Heitmiller, Shannon
Hodge, Mary
Hole, Marie
Holmes, Lois
Honaker, Cecil
Hornberger, Jean
Hove, Renee
Howerton, Catalina
Hubacz, Dina
Ingram, Rita
Jaya, Tina
Johnson, Kimberly
Jurek, Anne
Kahlert, Robert
Kasyan, Pamela Ann
Kaye, Kelly
Kean, Susan
Kelm, Lisa
Kemp, Nancy
Kenway, Erla
Kibler, David
Kim, Hye
Kimps, Carla
Kingery, Kirk
Kinoshita, Yasuko
Kintz, Carolyn
Kissinger, Danny
Kivirahk, Diana
Klein, Donna
Kleinhans, Maxine
Klumpp, David
Knoop, Michelle
Kohlhepp, Stephanie
Kooy, Fred
Korkmaz, Peter
Kornreich, Susan
Kramer, Alison
Kreidler, Kristy

Krumm, Kimberly
Kuhlmann, J. Christopher
Kulesa, Kathleen
Kulikowski, Christine
Kumar, Manoj
Kuznetsov, Sharon
Lahmann, Susan
Lam, Jennifer
Landry, Steven
Larcom, Mary
Larson, Kathleen
Lavere, Jennifer
Law, Yuen
Laws, Andrew
Lebsack, Janet
Leeman, M. Blanche
*LeFever, Jennifer
Leone, Mary
Lewallen, Alicia
Lewit, Karen
Lohrer, Cynthia
Luca, Linda
Macfie, Christy
Macias, Regina
MacKenzie, Alexandra
Maduke, Muchaneta
Magdalena, Gail
Malatesta, Carl
Mansfield, Sonja
Master, Gita
McCabe, Margaret
McClain Rumpf, Stacy
McElwain-Gabriel, Julie
McHugh, Piper
McKenzie, A. Merritt
McLean, Patrick
McPherson, Ann
Mendoza, Jaime
*Metzer, Pamela
Michaels, Lauri
Miller, Pamela
Miller, Christine
Miller, Andrea
Mohror Hill, Elizabeth
Moore, Linda
Mortellaro, Jana
Mueller, Michael
Murray, Megan
Myers, Angela
Nardo Edwards, Allyson
Nason, Kathilyn
Nazareth, Rachel
Neely, Bernice
Nelson, Mary
Neuendorff, Harold
Newby, Rebecca
Ng, Pauline
Niemerg, Lori
Novad, Marian
Olanna, Erica
Ott, Lori
Overton, Alyson
Pace, Marie

Pack, Karyn
Palm, Kerstin
Parker, Kathleen
Parkhurst, Darby
Parsons, Victoria
Patel, Nisha
Paulovits, Ildiko
Pavlov Krause, Ellie
Pelc, Patricia
Pelenski, Walter
Pena, Anthony
Penwell, Neil
Piazza, Amy
Pietroburgo, Ann
Pillon, Sharon
Plachy, Linda
Poirier, Lisa
Pollock, Virginia
Popp, Amy
Porretto Loehrke, Ann
Porter, Chris
Porterfield, Mary
Prucha, Theresa
Quamme, Kimberly
Rajnowski, Alyson
Rajterowski, Lynette
Rauschkolb, JoAnne
Raynsford, Carol
Reed, Lisa
Rettman, Teresa
Reynolds, Michelle
Ricci, Ted
Richter, Melanie
Rider, Randy
Riley-Miravite, Gail
Rizo, Leslie
Roberts, Sheri
Robertson, Michael
Robinson, Rachael
Rodriguez, Mitzi
Rojas, Christine
Rowland, Terri
Ruby, Lesley
Sajtos, Cathy
Salefski, Wendy
*Sausser, Kathy
Schaezlein Zipse, Nancy
Schaffer, Sheila
Scholz, Lisa
Schubert, Jennifer
Seip, Jeremy
Serig, Angela
Shampine, Dina
Sharma, Arun
Shegogue, Richard
Shields, Ramona
Sickels, Jennifer
Siemonsma, Rhonda
Skelley, Lisa
Smith, Dennis
Sohi, Ravinder
Sorensen Diaz, Trudy
Sorrrels, Christopher

Sorrrels, Allison
Spencer, Brian
Stamm, Audrey
Stayton Eley, Jennifer
Steigerwald, Lynn
Stein, Peggy
Stewart, Mary
Stewart, Danette
Stinnett, Patrick
Stone, Mickey
Stone Jones, Patricia
*Storrs, Joan
Suciu, Audrey
Sullivan, Catherine
Sullivan, Corie
Sylvester, Joyce
Tawalare, Sudhir
Taylor, Barbara
Terry, Ann
Thomas, Janine
Thompson, Kim
Thomson, Kathi
Thurber, Laurie
Tiley, Donna
Tilstra, Michele
Tipton, Allison
Tolentino, Maritess
Toth, Judith
Trapp, Sydne
Trevenna, Raina
Tucker, John
Tyrell, Robert
*Umansky, Amy
Van Horn, Denise
Walker, Yvonne
Walker, Randi
Wallman, Jackie
Wang, Meng-Chun
Ward, Frederick
Warren, Anna
White, Kathleen
Whitman, Marc
Williams, David
Williams, Therese
Williams, Stacie
Williams, Donna
Wilson, Lorraine
Wong, Janis
Wong, Chi
*Woo, Michelle
Wright, Dianne
Yowell, Robyn
Zelik, Linda
Zink, Stacia
Zivec, Tina
Zurlinden, Mary

2002 Certification Exam Highlights

Blueprint

The 2002 examination was the first using the revised blueprint from the 2001 Practice Analysis. There are now six domains in the examination:

Evaluate Upper Quarter/Patient Characteristics.	23%
Develop Treatment and Discharge Plans.	15%
Implement Treatment Plans	50%
Provide Population-Based Services	4%
Organize/Manage Services.	4%
Promote Professional Practice	4%

Demographics

Occupational Therapists comprised 87% of the candidates, 12% were Physical Therapists and less than 1% were dually credentialed. Ninety-one percent were educated in the United States. The majority are staff or senior therapists who work full time. Candidates reported that they work in three main settings: hospitals (49%), therapist-owned practices (21%), or corporate-owned practices (17%). About 60% have been certified as OTs or PTs for 5-10 years with a 1-6 year caseload of upper quarter patients. Thirty-three percent of candidates belong to their national or state professional organizations, and 24% belong to the American Society of Hand Therapists (ASHT). Seventy-seven percent of the candidates were taking the test for the first time.

Test Preparation

Therapists used a variety of methods to study for the exam, but 80% reported they primarily studied independently. Therapists who participated in study groups or took the ASHT Comprehensive Survey of Hand Therapy Course passed at a slightly higher rate than therapists who studied independently or took other courses. Interestingly, the 56% of the candidates who reported that they found their study method helpful passed at a higher than average rate. Therapists were asked how many hours they spent preparing for the exam. Five percent reported spending 50 hours or less, while about a quarter spent more than 300 hours. Therapists who spent 100-200 hours in preparation passed at a slightly higher rate than those who spent more or less time.

Passing Score and Passing Rate

Prior to 2002, HTCC released the passing score for the exam, but not the percentage who passed. The HTCC Board of Directors changes this policy for the 2002 exam.

Therapists were required to correctly answer 138 questions (out of 200) to pass the 2002 test. Fifty-three percent of the 689 therapists who took the test in 2002 passed. Historically, when candidates take the examination more than once, 65% of the candidates ultimately pass. The Hand Therapy Certification Examination was found to be both valid and reliable using standard testing methodology.

CHT Exam Goes International

International Standards Task Force

The International Standards Task Force (ISTF), with Brenda Hilfrank as chairperson, was established by the board in early 2002 in response to inquiries from countries about the CHT credential. Its goals are to:

- ▶ Provide a competency assessment tool/process for hand therapy professionals worldwide;
- ▶ Build a global presence;
- ▶ Share knowledge worldwide;
- ▶ Develop industry standards worldwide;
- ▶ Create lasting and successful relationships with leading international organizations.

Task force members began by contacting therapists in Great Britain and Australia to determine if there was sufficient interest in those countries to establish a test site for the exam, since work hours there were now accepted for exam eligibility. Great Britain has recently developed an advanced practice designation that is meeting their needs for credentialing. However, the therapists in Australia were interested in establishing a site. HTCC has been working closely with members of the Australian Hand Therapy Association (AHTA) to inform Australian therapists about the

test. AHTA has developed an educational network to assist therapists prepare for the examination. HTCC is excited about the expansion of the certification program and its collaboration with AHTA. The test will be given in Sydney, Australia on November 1, 2003.

Online Practice Analysis

Therapists from a variety of countries have contacted HTCC to inquire about having an examination site. The HTCC Board of Directors determined that no new country will be accepted for testing until a practice analysis has been conducted there and practice has been found to be consistent with the other countries in which HTCC provides certification. This ensures that the standards of HTCC are upheld and that there is consistency throughout the Hand Therapy Certification program.

In order to meet the need for other countries to participate in the Practice Analysis, the original survey has been modified and will be posted on the HTCC website this spring. When 40 or more therapists from a country have completed the survey, PES will analyze the results. If practice is found to be consistent, the Board will consider either establishing a test site in that location, or allowing therapists from that country to take the examination at another established test site. There will be no charge for participating in the survey.

Congratulations New Item Writers

Eight new item writers for the CHT exam were selected and trained in November 2002. Each will write 40 new test questions over the next two years. Each item writer is assigned to a mentor, who reviews the questions as they are being developed. HTCC appreciates the expertise and dedication required to write new exam questions.

Item Writers

Robinette Amaker, OTR/L, Ph.D., CHT Silver Spring, MD
Maureen Ashe, PT, CHT Vancouver, BC
Beth Coon, PT, CHT Versailles, KY
Andrew Fabrizio, OTR/L, MS, CHT Killeen, TX
Gail Groth, MHS, OTR/L, CHT Waterton, WI
JoAnn Keller, OTR/L, CHT Louisville, KY
Mary Mundrane-Zweiacher, MPT, ATC, CHT Middleton, DE
Melissa Thurlow, MBA, OTR, CHT Norcross, GA

Item Writer Mentors

Lauren Valdata Eddington, RPT, CHT, Chairperson Baltimore, MD
Donald Pitts, MS, OTR/L, CHT, Lexington, KY
J. Martin Walsh, OTR, CHT San Francisco, CA
Jennifer Chisar, MS, PT, CHT Pleasant Hill, CA

What's it like to be an item writer?

Personal comments from Maureen Ashe, PT, CHT

In November 2002, I was fortunate to be chosen as an examination Item Writer for the Hand Therapy Certification Commission (HTCC). I was one of only two Canadian Certified Hand Therapists (CHTs) asked to join the Item Writer's committee. The experience was educational and very enlightening. In this article, I would like to outline briefly the process of examination development and share my personal experience.

In 1999, I wrote and passed the HTCC exam to become a CHT. In addition to my years of hand therapy experience, I also spent an intense year preparing for my examination. I felt the examination was comprehensive but fair. At a two-day Item Writer training in November, I discovered the amount of work that went into the examination itself. While I was systematically preparing for the test, HTCC was systematically preparing to test me.

The HTCC exam consists of 200 multiple-choice questions. The underlying premise is that a valid exam is a reflection of the skills and knowledge necessary to practice as a

competent therapist, and the process is a scientific stepwise system to ensure an exam that is comprehensive, fair, and accurate.

My role over the weekend and in the next two years will be to develop questions that will go through this rigorous process before being used in an exam. Although the weekend was an intense learning experience of "what is a good question," I left satisfied that the exam process is tightly controlled to give an objective means of certifying hand therapists. In addition, I met clinicians from a variety of work and geographic locations. We were able to come together in two days to work successfully. This experience will enrich my hand therapy experience while I develop questions and interact with hand therapists from all over North America.

I would like to thank the HTCC staff and volunteers for both this opportunity and my weekend experience. I believe that the HTCC is committed to hand therapy, fairness, and the scientific method.

HTCC offers condolences to the friends and families of these CHTs:

Ann England Paula Tadano
Anita Moss Linwood Thomes

4,000 Hours of Direct Practice Experience Now Required for Test

From 1991 through 2002, 2,000 hours of direct practice experience were required to sit for the Hand Therapy Certification Examination. The results of the 2001 Practice Analysis suggest that some skills are not acquired until after the first year of specialization. Since the examination is a comprehensive test of advanced knowledge, it was concluded that 4,000 hours of direct practice experience would be a more realistic reflection of the expected level of knowledge and skill development. As a result, the eligibility requirements for the credential were changed to 4,000 hours of direct practice experience beginning in 2003. This change was announced in the Fall of 2001.

Please notify the HTCC Administrative Office of any change of information.

Log on to www.htcc.org and click **Update My Profile**. This will ensure that HTCC has accurate information.

2003 Calendar of Events

April 4-5, 2003

Exam Construction Meeting
New York

May 26, 2003

Memorial Day (HTCC Closed)

June 6-8, 2003

AOTA Meeting
Washington D.C.

July 4, 2003

Independence Day (HTCC Closed)

July 18-19, 2003

Recertification Committee Meeting
Chicago, IL

October 9-12, 2003

ASHT Annual Meeting
Los Angeles, CA

October 9, 7-9 PM

HTCC Opening Reception
Renaissance Hotel Pool Terrace

November 1, 2003

CHT Exam

November 27-28, 2003

Thanksgiving (HTCC Closed)

December 25-26, 2003

Christmas (HTCC Closed)

December 31-Jan 1, 2004

New Years (HTCC Closed)

HTCC Headquarters

11160 Sun Center Drive, Suite B
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6121
Phone: 800-860-7097
Fax: 916-851-0554
e-mail: info@htcc.org
www.htcc.org

Linda Mauer Joins HTCC Administrative Staff



Have you noticed a new, friendly voice when you call HTCC? Linda Mauer joined the staff of HTCC in October. Many of you met her in Nashville or Ottawa, but if you didn't, please welcome her the next time you call.

Linda's initial introduction to the Hand Therapy Certification Commission was at the ASHT Annual Conferences in Tennessee and Ottawa, where she staffed the HTCC booth and helped in coordinating the opening receptions. During these conferences, Linda gained knowledge on the certification process, the function of OT's and PT's in hand therapy, and a solid understanding of the role of the Certification Commission. When approached about officially coming onboard with HTCC, she was very pleased to accept the offer and has thoroughly enjoyed working with the organization and the HTCC Board, as well as the dedicated Certified Hand Therapists she speaks with daily.

Prior to joining HTCC, Linda provided support for the Chair, Senior C.A.O., and Academic Manager for the Department of Radiology, UC Davis Medical Center, where she served as coordinator, recruiter, and liaison for these high-level departmental heads. In addition, she has a background as a Systems Analyst for S.A.I.C., an engineering and defense contractor, in San Diego. Upon relocating to Sacramento, she managed and operated a rare book and art store for twelve years.

The Tradition Continues...HTCC Hosts Reception at ASHT Meeting

What could have been more enjoyable than an evening set against the backdrop of historic Ottawa, Canada? Well, perhaps dancing to the crooning of Johnny Vegas and his orchestra, being shanghaied to have your photo snapped by the effervescent, hat-bearing Francesca, your future revealed by noted numerologist, Renee Beaupre, or relaxing over drinks and appetizers with 350 colleagues and friends. It was a night to remember!



HTCC was pleased to sponsor the opening reception for the ASHT 25th Annual Meeting at the elegant Ottawa Congress Centre. Guests came from as far away as Switzerland, New Zealand, Australia, and England, and our Canadian hosts couldn't have been nicer. It was a mixer in the truest sense.

2003 will mark the eighth year HTCC has hosted the welcoming reception for the ASHT conference. It is particularly rewarding to see connections and reunions between therapists flourish from year-to-year. So, let the tradition live on by joining us at the Renaissance Hollywood Hotel, October 9, 2003 for another evening of music, dancing, good eats* and fun, all on the beautiful Pool Terrace.

* Shhh! We'll let you in on a little secret – Wolfgang Puck Catering will be preparing our party, could it get any more **HOLLYWOOD** – don't tell, okay?