Acute Management of Injury and Illness

The Sports Specialty Council recognizes the need of sports physical therapists to demonstrate continuous competency in all content areas identified in the *Sports Description of Specialty Practice (DSP)*. One of the hallmark areas identified in the DSP that delineates a sports physical therapist, *Acute Management of Injury and Illness*. Thus, the all physical therapists who wish to become Board-certified Sports Clinical Specialists must possess certification through continuing education credits in Acute Management of Injury and Illness for conditions encountered in sports medicine.

**Requirements of this certification are as follows:**

- **In order to be eligible to sit for initial certification:**
  - Applicants must complete a face-to-face or mixed-delivery continuing education course (content outline specified below)
  - Course must be no less than 14 total hours in duration
    - Course must include at least 7 hours of face-to-face instruction with inclusion of hands-on activities
      - Course must include both didactic and clinical instruction
      - Course must include didactic and clinical testing

- **For recertification and during each MOSC period** (3 year cycle)
  - Each certified specialist must have completed a continuing education course (content outline below)
  - Course must be no less than 7 hours in duration
  - Course can be in any educational format, face-to-face, online, or mixed-delivery

The above continuing education courses can be offered by any entity that is serving as a continuing education provider and awarding continuing education contact hours &/or units within the physical therapy jurisdiction. University, College, or other coursework by a certified educational agency also qualifies as long as the content areas outlined below are satisfied.
• **Content areas** that must be included in the course are as follows:
  o Emergency management systems
  o Legal Issues
  o Disease transmission
  o Primary & Secondary Assessment
  o Airway Emergencies & Oxygen
  o Epipen Administration
  o Chain of Survival & Cardiac Emergencies
    ▪ Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
    ▪ Automated external defibrillation
  o Injury incidence, etiology, & management
    ▪ Bleeding & wound management
    ▪ Head injuries
      o Concussion management
    ▪ Spine injuries
      o Equipment removal
      o Spine boarding
    ▪ Facial injuries
      o Nasal and ocular
    ▪ Chest, thorax, and abdominal injuries
    ▪ Injuries to the extremities
      o Fracture & dislocation management

• **Preapproved courses:** [Click here](#) for list of courses approved through APTA Sports Section and additional pre-approved by the Sports Specialty Council.