

Results from the first three WCPT Look Forward Together polls

First poll: exciting opportunities for physical therapy

1167 responses from individuals and member organisations

The five top opportunities were:

- 1 direct access/self-referral (weighted score 6.36)
- 2 research demonstrating the benefits of PT across the lifespan (6.06)
- 3 increasing recognition of the value of PT for ageing populations (5.4)
- 4 increased emphasis on interprofessional collaborative practice (5.26)
- 5 the expanding role of PT in the community (5.08).

Second poll: most pressing professional issues facing the profession

731 responses from individuals and member organisations

The main concerns centred around lack of status and recognition of the profession.

The top five challenges were:

- 1 pay and working conditions (weighted score 8.46)
- 2 profession not held in high esteem by others (8.4)
- 3 the need to improve understanding about the value of physical therapy (8.09)
- 4 lack of professional autonomy (7.48)
- 5 encroachment on the role of PTs by others (7.25).

Third poll: issues you would like to see as WCPT work streams (provisional results, as at 2.12.15)

715 responses from individuals and member organisations

The top five priorities were:

1. Promoting the valuable contribution of PT across the lifespan in different service settings (325 responses)
2. Direct access/self-referral (266)
3. Working with and influencing other professionals and decision makers (266)
4. Professional autonomy (259)
5. Pay and working conditions (226)