A global profile of the profession

6 out of 10 physical therapists around the world are women

82% of countries around the world have more women than men practicing physical therapy

In 3 countries at least
9 out of 10 physical therapists are women

Colombia, Latvia, Hungary

How many physical therapists are women in WCPT regions?

- 7 out of 10 in North America Caribbean Region
- 6 out of 10 in European Region
- 6 out of 10 in Africa Region
- 6 out of 10 in South America Region
- 5 out of 10 in Asian Western Pacific Region

This data is based on responses to annual surveys sent to WCPT’s member organisations. In 2018 the annual survey was sent to 122 member organisations and 69 responded to questions on gender. The census date was 30 June 2018.
What do we know about the profession in countries around the world?

- **53.9%** can refer themselves to a physical therapist without a referral
- **77.5%** have post professional degree programmes
- **42.7%** recognise specialisation
- **37.1%** publish a peer reviewed journal
- **73%** provide a schedule of CPD on their website
- **86.5%** have no law preventing private practice

### What are physical therapists permitted to do in WCPT Regions?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>South America Region</th>
<th>North America Caribbean Region</th>
<th>European Region</th>
<th>Asia Western Pacific Region</th>
<th>Africa Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Act as first contact/autonomous practitioners</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assess patients/clients</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make a diagnosis</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treat (interventions, advice and evaluation of outcome)</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refer to other specialists/services</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offer preventative advice/services</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This data is represents the percentage of countries in each of the WCPT Regions.

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