

Tammany J, Blomdahl S, Merryman S, Petree A, Rendon S, Schultz E. PREVALENCE AND FACTORS OF BURNOUT AMONG PHYSICAL THERAPISTS IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Hardin-Simmons University Department of Physical Therapy, Abilene, TX.

**PURPOSE:** To identify the relationship between demographic and workplace factors and burnout among licensed physical therapists in the United States. **SUBJECTS:** Licensed physical therapists, n=1653. **METHODS:** A 72-question electronic survey was developed and distributed to licensed physical therapists via Microsoft Forms through email lists obtained from four state licensing boards. The survey included items from the Copenhagen Burnout Inventory (CBI), the Intent to Turnover Measure and the Job Satisfaction Survey (JSS). Additionally, subjects answered questions related to their primary work setting, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and demographic information. The survey was open from October 2020 to November 2020. Statistical analyses were performed to identify the strength of the relationship between burnout and demographic and workplace factors, to compare the levels of burnout, job satisfaction, and intent to turnover by setting and productivity standard, and to compare burnout among those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. **RESULTS:** A total of 15,877 invitations were sent and 1,652 individuals participated. Work-related burnout differed significantly by setting ( $F(7,1350) = 10.223, p < 0.001$ ) with the highest mean levels of burnout found in home health ( $M = 60.98 \pm 1.4$ ) and skilled nursing facility ( $M = 55.11 \pm 1.4$ ) settings. Participants who reported having a formal productivity standard reported significantly higher levels of work-related burnout ( $t(1356) = 4.634, p = 0.001$ ), lower levels of overall job satisfaction ( $t(1651) = -6.871, p < 0.001$ ) and higher intent to turnover ( $t(1651) = 4.395, p < 0.001$ ) than those without a productivity standard. Weak and non-significant relationships were found between burnout and the demographic and workplace factors. When asked about the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on burnout, the most common responses were increased stress (88.7%), decreased income (44.0%), and decreased hours (33.6%). **CONCLUSIONS:** Overall, the level of burnout was highest among those working in home health and skilled nursing facility settings. Subjects with a productivity standard reported higher levels of burnout, lower levels of job satisfaction, and higher intent to turnover. Weak relationships were found between burnout and the subject's age, years of practice, productivity rate, highest level of education, hours worked each week, hours of direct patient care. **CLINICAL RELEVANCE:** This study examined the relationship between burnout and several burnout predictors among licensed physical therapists in the United States. The data revealed no one factor was strongly correlated to burnout, but rather several factors contributed to perceived burnout among physical therapists. Further research is needed to evaluate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the rate and prevalence of burnout among licensed physical therapists.