

Understanding Privileging Webinar — Additional Q & A

Q: Can other healthcare professionals direct non-CPO, CO, CP, MSPO professionals in P&O care?

A: No, provision of orthotic and prosthetic care may only be privileged and supervised by an appropriately credential O&P professional. For example, ABC accreditation standards do not allow a physical therapist to oversee custom orthotic or prosthetic care. The physical therapist may claim that their licensure scope of practice allows for provision of O&P care; however ABC only recognizes O&P credentials in the provision of custom O&P services.

Q: I understand that Written Objective Criteria needs to be specific to a device and Rx, but how specific does this need to be?

A: **The definition for Written Objective Criteria states:**

The structure and mechanism of how the caregiver has gained the necessary knowledge and skills to be able to provide a specific patient care service must be clear and related to the diagnosis involved and the orthosis or prosthesis being provided.

Privileging is not a global approval to provide orthotic or prosthetic care. It should be specifically focused on the specific device being provided and the diagnosis being treated. For example, if a certified orthotic fitter is privileged by a certified orthotist to evaluate and cast for an Arizona AFO to treat posterior tibial tendon dysfunction (PTTD), that does not mean the fitter is also allowed to provide a custom thermoplastic AFO for a patient that suffered from a stroke. While the devices are both AFOs, the diagnoses present completely different signs and symptoms and the technical nature of the devices is significantly different.

Q: Does this pertain to states with licensure? Can a prosthetist that is ABC certified and licensed in the state be privileged to provide custom orthotic care?

A: Licensure rules and requirements take precedence over ABC's accreditation and scope of practice rules. ABC's rules would allow a certified prosthetist to be privileged to provide a specific orthotic intervention; however if the state which the prosthetist practices requires individuals to be licensed as an orthotist to provide that intervention, the licensure rules trump ABC's rules.

Q: Do you need to privilege a credentialed provider who is working within their scope of practice?

A: No, privileging is not required for a certified individual to provide care that is within their certification scope of practice. For example, a certified therapeutic shoe fitter does not need to be supervised or privileged to provide non-custom diabetic shoes/inserts. They also do not need their clinical notes countersigned.