

William Boissonnault, PT, DHSc, FAAOMPT



Assistant Professor, Division of Physical Therapy

5190 Medical Sciences Center
1300 University Avenue
Madison, WI 53706-1532

Office: (608) 263-5095

Fax: (608) 262-7809

boiss@surgery.wisc.edu

Why I am a Physical Therapist, and Why I Teach Physical Therapy

With my interest in pathology and medical screening, I have been asked a number of times, 'Bill why don't you go to medical school?' I have never had a desire to pursue a medical career outside of the profession of physical therapy. The opportunity to work closely with patients/clients and their families, specifically towards goals of enhanced function, mobility, health and wellness, is something that I have always enjoyed. I have learned so much over the years working with all age groups in a variety of settings, including home health, outpatient private practice and hospitals. Teaching, a vocation I have always been drawn to, is an integral part of providing physical therapy services in all of these settings.

I am happiest when I am learning, growing, and being challenged. The academic setting provides an environment where perpetual learning, growing and being challenged are the norm. I learn a great deal from our students; this knowledge assists me in planning research and becoming a better clinician. Besides teaching, the academic setting carries the responsibility of contributing to the profession's body of knowledge. The ability to do research at a university like ours, with the rich history of discovery and the abundant resources, is a privilege.

Education and Certification

- BS, Physical Therapy, University of Wisconsin-Madison
 - MSc, Specialty Track - Orthopaedic Physical Therapy, Institute of Physical Therapy-St. Augustine
 - DHSc, University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences
 - FAAOMPT, Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapists
-

Courses Taught

- PT 642: Research Practicum
 - PT 665: Pathology: Implications for Physical Therapy
 - PT 676: Musculoskeletal Assessment and Treatment I
-

Clinical Interests

I am a Senior Physical Therapist at the Spine Center PT Clinic - UW Hospital and Clinics. I have worked at OP Spine/TMJ PT centers since 1982. I have a strong interest in manual therapy as it applies to the OP orthopedic population.

Professional Activities

- Member, American Physical Therapy Association (APTA); also member of the Research, Education, and Orthopaedic Sections of the APTA
 - Past President of the Orthopaedic Section, APTA
 - Wisconsin Physical Therapy Association Delegate to the APTA House of Delegates
 - Immediate Past-Rehabilitation Team Supervisor-Orthopaedic Services, University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics
 - Presenter of numerous talks on medical screening for physical therapists and diagnostic imaging
 - Serve as an adjunct faculty member to numerous institutions, including the University of St. Augustine, University of Indianapolis, Massachusetts General Hospital, University of Tennessee-Memphis, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
-

Honors and Awards

2004: Paris Distinguished Service Award. Orthopaedic Section, APTA. Combined Sections Meeting, Nashville TN

2003: Keynote Speaker: Research Day. American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists Annual Conference, Reno Nevada

2003: Keynote Speaker: University of Wisconsin-Madison, Physical Therapy Program, Class of 2003 Graduation

2002: Luiese Lynch Lectureship, College of Allied Health, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Oklahoma City, OK

2002: Selected as a Knowledge Network Facilitator, Screening for Medical Referral, American Physical Therapy Association Annual Conference, Cincinnati, OH

2002: Keynote Speaker: University of Wisconsin-Madison, Physical Therapy Program, Class of 2002 Graduation

2001: Keynote Luncheon Lecturer: Wisconsin Physical Therapy Association, Fall Conference, Madison, WI.

2001: Charles Magistro Service Award, Foundation for Physical Therapy

2000: John H.P. Maley Lectureship Award, "Innovations in Clinical Practice," American Physical Therapy Association, Physical Therapy 2000: Meeting and Exposition of the APTA, Indianapolis, Indiana

Research Interests

- Investigating the impact that illnesses, medication and substance use (caffeine, tobacco and alcohol) have on outcomes following rehabilitation.
 - Investigating physical therapists' role in medical screening-identifying patients/clients who should be referred to a physician.
 - Investigating the intervention thrust joint manipulation from a physical therapy educational perspective; what is being taught, how is it being taught etc.?
-

Publications of Note

Journal articles:

Thein-Nissenbaum J, W Boissonnault. Differential diagnosis of spondylolysis. *J of Ortho and Sports Phys Ther*, under review, submitted January, 2004.

Boissonnault W, M Badke. Collecting patient health history information: The accuracy of a self-administered questionnaire in a pre-operative care ambulatory setting. *Phys Ther*, under review, submitted December, 2003.

Boissonnault W, J Bryan, KJ Fox. Joint manipulation curricula in professional physical therapy education programs. *J of Ortho and Sports Phys Ther*, 34(4): 171-181, 2004.

Boissonnault W, J Thein-Nissenbaum. Differential diagnosis of a sacral stress fracture. *J of Ortho and Sports Phys Ther*, 32(12):613-621, 2002.

Boissonnault W, P Meek. Risk factors for anti-inflammatory drug and aspirin-induced gastrointestinal complications in physical therapy outpatients. *J of Ortho and Sports Phys Ther*, 32(10):510-517, 2002.

Boissonnault W, J Boissonnault. Transient osteoporosis of the hip associated with pregnancy. *J of Ortho and Sports Phys Ther*, 31(7):359-367, 2001.

Boissonnault W. Prevalence of co-morbidities, surgery and medication use in a physical therapy outpatient population: A multi-centered study. *J of Ortho and Sports Phys Ther*, 29(9):506-525, 1999.

Text:

Goodman C, W Boissonnault, K Fuller. *Pathology: Implication for the Physical Therapist*, 2nd edition., WB Saunders Co., 2nd edition. 2002.

Boissonnault W. *Medical Screening for the Physical Therapist*. On CD-ROM; 20 hours of material including written examination, December, 2003.

Boissonnault W. *Primary Care for the Physical Therapist: Examination and Triage*. WB Saunders Co., Publication date September, 2004.

Boissonnault W. *Examination in Physical Therapy Practice: Screening for Medical Disease*, 2nd ed., Churchill Livingstone, Inc., New York, 1995.

Perform a customized PubMed [literature search](#) for William Boissonnault.

Grant Funding

Patient Outcomes Following Orthopedic Spinal Surgery, Shoulder and Knee Surgeries; The Impact of Pre-Surgical Co-Morbidities, Medication and Substance Use (B Boissonnault, PI),
Funding Agency: Surgical Associates, May, 2002 – June, 2003.

Patient Outcome Following Physical Therapy Intervention for Rotator Cuff Surgery: the Impact of Patients' Pre-Existing Health Histories (B Boissonnault, PI),
Funding Agency: Orthopaedic Section, APTA, June, 2003- June, 2004.

Joint Manipulation: First-Professional Physical Therapist Students' Clinical Instructors Attitudes and Expertise (B Boissonnault, PI),
Funding Agency: American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists, October, 2003- June, 2004.
