



Mission

The mission of the National Athletic Trainers' Association is to represent, engage and foster the continued growth and development of the athletic training profession and athletic trainers as unique health care providers.

Vision

Athletic trainers will be globally recognized as vital practitioners in the delivery and advancement of health care. Through passionate provision of unique services, athletic trainers will be an integral part of the inter-professional health care team.

Strategic Plan Overview

Advocacy (A1- A4)

Elevate the profession by enhancing its image; influencing public opinion and policy; and demonstrating the value of services and economic impact of ATs in the health care arena.

Engagement (E1-E4)

Provide opportunities for involvement and leadership development through participation in NATA programs and initiatives.

Development (D1-D4)

Enhance the practice of athletic training through programs, services and education designed to improve patient outcomes.

As you read the National Monthly Briefing, you will notice a denotation (**A1, E2, D3**, etc.) at the end of each subject. These denotations will show how each task relates to the Strategic Plan. For the complete Strategic Plan, please view it [here](#).

Overview

The national briefing is a monthly communication prepared for board members, district/state leaders and volunteers to highlight recent and/or upcoming initiatives at your national office. Consider the information in this briefing as a resource when providing updates about NATA to your constituencies. A new briefing is included in the board packet monthly and distributed via email to all volunteer leaders (board members, committee chairs and state leaders). If you have any questions about information included in this briefing, contact Zaneta Sevier, Marketing Coordinator, at zanetas@nata.org.

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Advocacy

2020 Medicare Call Letter

NATA submitted a letter to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services commenting on the proposed updates to the Medicare Advantage and Part D programs through the Medicare Advantage and Part D Draft CY 2020 Call Letter. The letter specifically recognized and commented on the centers' efforts to prevent opioid use by improving access to non-opioid treatments for pain management. [A1](#)

Coalition to Preserve Rehabilitation

In addition to the letter NATA submitted to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), NATA also signed on to a letter from the Coalition to Preserve Rehabilitation (CPR) to CMS regarding Medicare Advantage and Part C plans. The letter from CPR focused on supplemental benefits for beneficiaries with chronic conditions, the Star Rating system and non-opioid pain management supplemental benefits. [A1](#)

Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program

NATA joined a number of other health care organizations in signing a letter sent to the U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, urging the designation of a stand-alone arthritis program within the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program at the Department of Defense. The stand-alone program would research better prevention and treatment strategies critical to reducing the number of service members and veterans suffering from arthritis. [A1](#)

National Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity

NATA signed on to a letter from the National Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity urging Congress to increase funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division on Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity in fiscal year 2020. [A1](#)

Engagement

[NATA Co-Presents First International Conference](#)

The International Sports Science Medical Conference, held January in London, was an outstanding success with more than 160 attendees. The conference was co-presented by NATA, the Professional Baseball Athletic Trainers Society, the British Association of Sport Rehabilitators and Trainers and St. Mary's University Twickenham. This was the first time NATA has co-presented an international educational course. Professional attendees included athletic trainers, sport rehabilitators, sport therapists and physicians. Fifty athletic training students from the United States, along with students from the United Kingdom, were also in attendance.

The conference featured expert content from the United States and England specific to the upper extremity. Lectures and breakout sessions focused on the advanced care of conditions that primarily occurred in baseball, rugby and cricket.

The course was approved by the Board of Certification for a maximum of 15.75 Category A CEUs. Invited speakers from the United States included: Timothy Uhl, PhD, ATC, PT – University of Kentucky; Jamie Reed, ATC – Texas Rangers; Nick Kenney, ATC, CSCS – Kansas City Royals; Scott Sheridan, ATC, PT, CSCS – Philadelphia Phillies; and Keith Meister, MD – Texas Rangers. United Kingdom experts in the areas of sports rehabilitation, strength and conditioning, exercise physiology and nutrition enhanced the cross-cultural discussion and exchange of ideas.

The conference received outstanding reviews from attendees and the collaborative environment allowed for maximum learning. [E1](#)

[NATA Research & Education Foundation Scholarship Recipients](#)

The 2019 NATA Research & Education Foundation scholarship recipients have been announced. The list of awardees can be found on the [NATA Foundation website](#). [E4](#)

Development

Safe Sports School Award

The Safe Sports School Award (SSSA) has been granted to 1,568 schools since the program's inception in March 2013. Additionally, 269 prior recipients have renewed their SSSA status since 2016. [D1](#)