

Section 5: Future Directions in the Benchmarking Process

Together, the competencies and standards provide a description of the professional behaviours of a sports physiotherapist. They will be evaluated using an audit toolkit. Together, these form the framework for educational learning outcomes and a portfolio that serves several purposes:

- increasing the transparency of communication between sports physiotherapists and all individuals and agencies requiring their skills,
- guiding the design of professional development opportunities, and
- enabling sports physiotherapists to provide evidence of their competencies and identify their learning needs.

The Sports Physiotherapy for All website provides a public interface to facilitate communication between physiotherapists, employers, researchers, educators, and anyone with an interest in sports physiotherapy. It provides up-to-date sporting and professional information, a discussion forum, an educational portal, and literature resources.

Greater transparency in the description and demonstration of competencies allows promotion of sports physiotherapy, greater professional mobility, and guidance in career development, in Europe and beyond.