



Last Updated: 06/03/2015  
Contact: nationalgovernance@apta.org

**DESIGNATION OF INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, OR BOTH DISABILITIES AS A MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED POPULATION**  
**HOD P06-15-27-21 [Position]**

Whereas, Medically underserved populations (MUPs) may include groups of persons who face economic, cultural, or linguistic barriers to health care;

Whereas, The formula for determining a MUP comprises 4 variables that, when added together, represent the extent to which a population is underserved;

Whereas, The population of individuals with intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities, or both disabilities currently qualifies under 3 of the 4 variables and is projected to meet the fourth due to increase in lifespan;

Whereas, The MUP designation is used to help prioritize the distribution of federal and state funds to meet the needs of the population;

Whereas, The MUP designation is seen as a potential avenue to increase the supply of health care providers serving the population;

Whereas, In 2004, the American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry used the 4 variables to determine that the population of individuals who are intellectually disabled, developmentally disabled, or both should be designated a MUP, and;

Whereas, The American Medical Association passed a resolution in 2011 supporting the designation of individuals with intellectual disabilities as a MUP;

Resolved, That the American Physical Therapy Association supports the designation of individuals who are intellectually disabled, developmentally disabled, or both as a special medically underserved population by appropriate government agencies.

**Explanation of Reference Numbers:**

BOD P00-00-00-00 stands for Board of Directors/month/year/page/vote in the Board of Directors Minutes; the "P" indicates that it is a position (see below). For example, BOD P11-97-06-18 means that this position can be found in the November 1997 Board of Directors minutes on Page 6 and that it was Vote 18.

P: Position | S: Standard | G: Guideline | Y: Policy | R: Procedure