The State of Alabama Board of Physical Therapy acknowledges that there have been no reported incidents of direct or indirect harm to the physical therapy consumers in the state of Alabama since the inception of 2012 direct access legislation. It is also noted, that although diagnostic tests such as X-rays are helpful in the determination of various conditions, they’re not always necessary for the safe practice of physical therapy.

Physical therapist are highly trained health care providers that are capable of determining when and if alternate diagnostic tests, referrals, and treatments are necessary. Although X-rays, imaging and other diagnostic tests may be helpful, the safe practice of physical therapy can be accomplished without radiologic imaging. Physical Therapists are competently able to provide an appropriate physical therapy diagnosis and are trained to identify the need for alternative medical intervention with faced with difficult clinical situations.

For the Alabama Board of Physical Therapy,

Wiley Christian, III
Board Chair