

Submitted on Thu, 03/31/2022 - 15:52

**Name**

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**Affiliation, if applicable**

The RehabGYM

**Town/City**

Williston

**Topic**

Other

**Comment**

Please do not forget the independent Physical Therapy practices. Our industry has been crushed with higher costs while payers have provided nominal increases, if any, over the last 16 years. No business can stay in business forever as costs go up while their pricing is forced to remain flat. We have even seen year-over-year price reductions forced on us by some of the payers. This is unfair to our teams of DPTs who have to pay ever growing living expenses and large student loan debts. We are not allowed to charge above contracted rates. Actually, we have no control over our pricing at all. Therefore, to be fair, we should be provided annual rate increases that at least keep u p with a CPI rate. If this doesn't happen we will see independent practices close all across the State leaving patients with the hospital system as their only choice. A system where the cost is consistently 3 to 5 times that of private providers. We need equity and fairness in our healthcare payment models in VT. Thank you

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Yes