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For Immediate Release

The Hand Therapy Certification Commission Contracts with PES for Practice Analysis Study

New York, NY, November 2007—Professional Examination Service (PES) is pleased to announce an agreement with the Hand Therapy Certification Commission, Inc. (HTCC) for a study to update the practice analysis that forms the basis of the Hand Therapy Certification Examination. The Certified Hand Therapist (CHT) credential is internationally recognized as the symbol of excellence in the field of hand therapy.

Commenting on the agreement, Mary Kasch, HTCC Executive Director, said, “We conduct a new practice analysis every five to seven years, both as a matter of credentialing best practice and to ensure that the Hand Therapy Certification Examination continues to reflect current practice in the profession. This practice analysis will produce a revised test blueprint for the Hand Therapy Certification Examination as well as an understanding of the patient populations currently seen by hand therapists and the interventions provided to address their needs. We are pleased to be partnering with PES again—this is the fourth practice analysis we have conducted with them.

I. Leon Smith, PES President and CEO, stated “PES has a long history of support for HTCC’s credentialing mission, and we are delighted to collaborate with HTCC on this practice analysis study. We are proud of our approach to the conduct of practice analysis studies—PES customizes each study and leverages technology to produce online surveys that can be distributed easily and cost-effectively to respondents worldwide.”

The practice analysis began in September 2007 and will seek input from a broad range of stakeholders. Working with the content experts appointed to HTCC’s Practice Analysis Task Force and a panel of independent reviewers, PES will facilitate the development of a detailed delineation of practice that includes: (1) domains, tasks, and knowledge; (2) diagnostic categories; (3) medical/surgical conditions; and (4) therapeutic procedures. The delineation will be validated through a web-based survey distributed to approximately 2,000 CHTs in the US, Canada, and Australia.

About HTCC—The Hand Therapy Certification Commission, Inc. (HTCC) is a not-for-profit corporation established in 1989 for the purpose of sponsoring a voluntary credentialing program for occupational therapists and physical therapists who specialize in upper quarter rehabilitation. The Hand Therapy Certification Examination is offered solely by HTCC. The mission of HTCC is to support a high level of competence in hand therapy practice and to advance the specialty through a formal credentialing process. To learn more about HTCC, visit their website at www.htcc.org.

About PES—Since 1941, PES has provided assessment and consulting services to organizations across a broad range of professions, in support of professional licensure and certification, training, and continuing professional education. PES offers a full range of assessment and testing services, including practice analysis and test specification development, item and examination development, test administration, psychometric analysis, scoring and reporting, and program management. PES specializes in high-quality evaluation research that is tailored to the needs of each client’s program and the special interest of its stakeholders, including a wide variety of studies and developmental efforts to assist in the planning and implementation of new programs, or the evaluation and enhancement of existing programs. PES also offers advisory services, including strategic and policy planning, and association management. To learn more about PES, visit us online at <http://www.proexam.org>.

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