Learning Objectives

Chad Cook, PT, PhD, MBA, FAPTA, FAAOMPT

Course Objectives:

- Discuss the imperative patient history elements of a thoracic spine examination
- Discuss the most common forms of self-report patient outcome measures
- Evaluate the economic impact of thoracic dysfunction; consider the prevalence/incidence of thoracic pain and how this influences clinical practice
- Identify the link between observed posture and thoracic dysfunction
- Identify benefits of general observation of a patient’s expression of fear, anxiety, or distress
- Identify the most prevalent red flags germane to the thoracic spine examination
- Compare and contrast the purposes of each diagnostic test for sinister problems
- Analyze the triggers that would prompt the use of a test for ruling out a condition
- Evaluate the benefit of performing these “ruling out” actions first within the examination
- Understand structural differentiation
- Compare and contrast the goals of the three primary phases of the initial examination
- Evaluate the benefit of palpation as part of a dedicated clinical examination
- Evaluate the benefit and types of manual muscle testing for the thoracic spine
- Identify the most diagnostic thoracic-oriented special tests
- Apply the tests to the appropriate diagnoses
- Demonstrate the most commonly used physical performance measures of the thoracic spine
- Identify the utility of the physical performance measures of the thoracic spine