<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/17138843/>

Physical therapists with an orthopedic specialization are twice as likely to make correct decisions for critical medical and musculoskeletal conditions.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5901428/>

The ability of PTs in private practice to recognize patients with depression is +/- 75%.

The inappropriate handling of depression by Pts is a concern because depression is a major contributing factor for delayed rehabilitation and development of persistent LBP.

Primary care physicians have more difficulty than the PTs to recognize patients with depression

PTs with clinical specialization perform better than physical therapists with a musculoskeletal interest at recognize and managing patients with LBP and warning flags.

PTs with clinical specialization (PTOs and PTs with manual therapy certification) perform significantly better than PTs without clinical specialization for patients with red flags.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28257618/>

Physical therapists who were PTFOs adhered better to the CPG for LBP than did PTMSs for all 4 patient vignettes. Orthopaedic clinical specialists adhered better to the CPG for LBP for the vignettes of mobility deficit and of LBP with fear-avoidance behavior than did PTMSs.