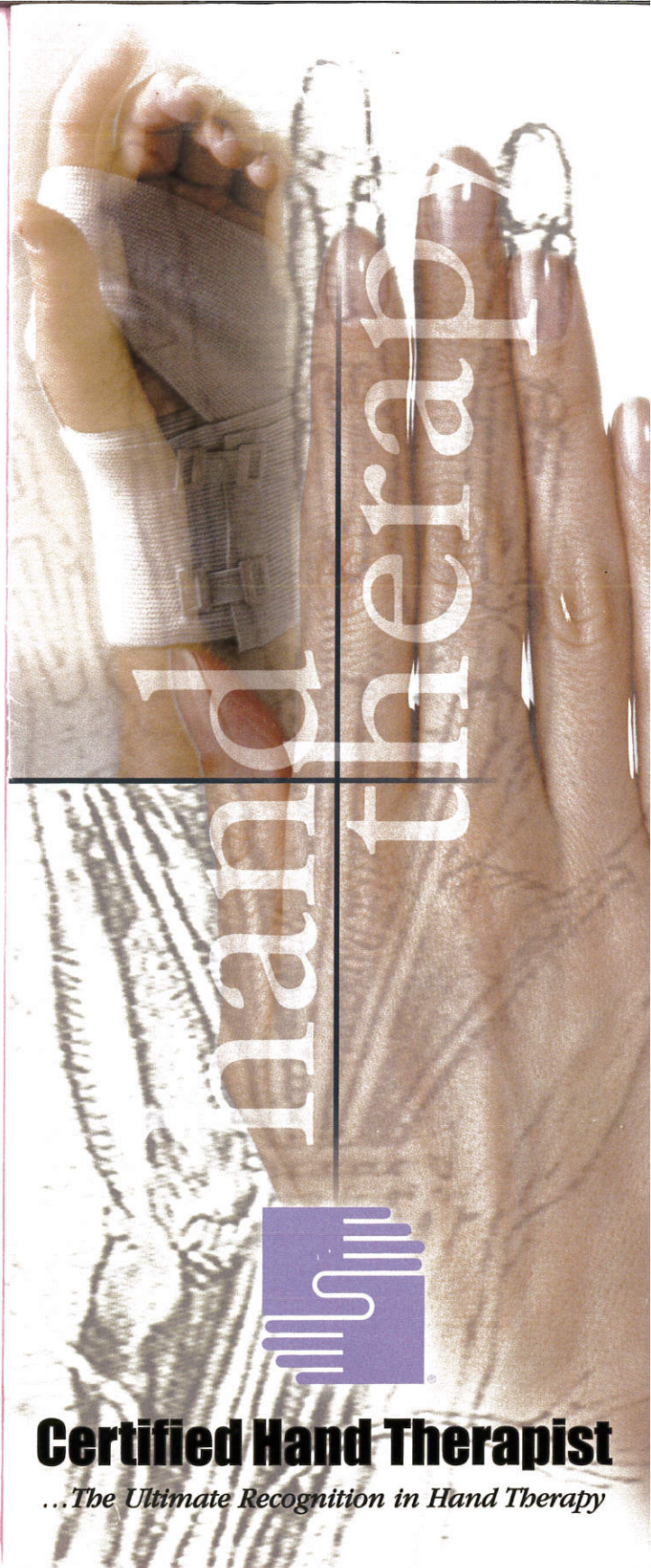




Hand Therapy



Certified Hand Therapist

...The Ultimate Recognition in Hand Therapy

Certified Hand Therapists

A certified hand therapist is an occupational therapist or physical therapist who has a minimum of five years of clinical experience, including 2,000 hours or more in direct practice in hand therapy. In addition, the certified hand therapist must successfully pass a comprehensive test of advanced clinical skills and theory in upper extremity rehabilitation.

In the profession of hand therapy, the credentials for a certified hand therapist are CHT. These marks distinguish an occupational therapist or physical therapist as someone with the highest professional credential in the specialty of upper extremity rehabilitation. A CHT is a part of an exceptional group of occupational therapists and physical therapists who have met the standards set by experts in hand therapy. They have demonstrated their professional commitment to excellence by obtaining these voluntary credentials.



Visit our website at www.htcc.org

The Benefits of Working With Certified Hand Therapists

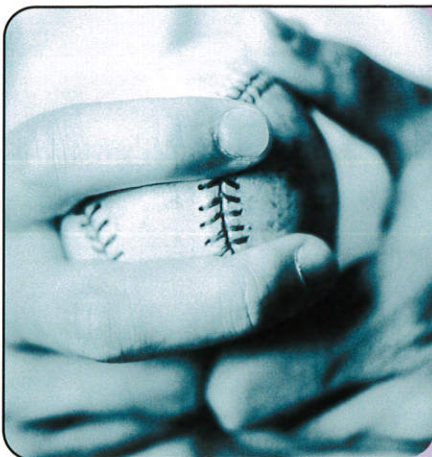
People value the use of their hands and any loss of function through injury or accident can devastate lives. Anyone with an injury wants nothing but the very best to assure maximal recovery. A certified hand therapist offers the public assurance that the therapist treating them has achieved the highest level of competency in the profession and stays current in the field.

The intricate anatomy of the arm and hand frequently requires very delicate surgery, often with microscopic techniques. The technical complexity of these kinds of surgeries necessitates a high level of competence during the postoperative recovery by therapists with advanced skills in upper extremity rehabilitation. Therapists must be knowledgeable about these advanced surgical techniques and post-operative therapy programs to become CHTs. They must also remain knowledgeable about changes in hand therapy practice.

Certification is voluntary and is difficult to attain. Certification involves meeting a standard and developing a career path. Preparing to pass the certification examination requires advanced study and training. A CHT is someone who has demonstrated a personal dedication to the profession of hand therapy and a desire for advanced competency. CHTs are therapists who have studied long and hard to advance themselves. They bring to their work a commitment and dedication to reach and maintain the highest standards in their profession.

The CHT credential is recognized by many professional organizations as a benchmark for excellence in advanced specialty credentialing in health care.

For assistance in locating a certified hand therapist in your area, visit the HTCC website at www.htcc.org.



Common diagnoses managed by CHTs include:

- Fractures
- Tendon Injuries
- Tendinitis
- Amputations
- Nerve Injuries
- Nerve Compressions
- Tumors or Cysts
- Arthritis
- Burns
- Rotator Cuff Injuries
- Impingement Syndrome
- Sprains or Strains

CHTs are highly skilled in evaluating:

- Wounds & Scars
- Edema
- Strength & Endurance
- Pain
- Range of Motion
- Sensibility
- Activities of Daily Living, vocational and/or avocational areas

Certified Hand Therapists

*the Certified Hand
are good results after*

of most hand conditions
modulation of scar tissue.
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issue together. The hand is
compact structure that the
between good and bad may
thickness of a few colla-
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Hand Therapy Certification Commission

The Hand Therapy Certification Commission (HTCC) is a not-for-profit corporation established in 1989 for the purpose of sponsoring a voluntary credentialing program. HTCC is the only organization granting hand therapy certification in the United States and Canada. The certification examination is a comprehensive test that covers the broad body of knowledge required for the advanced specialty of upper extremity rehabilitation. This knowledge encompasses not only clinical skills, but also the basic science and theory required to support clinical treatment. Certification is granted for a five-year period, at which time a therapist must recertify by examination or with continuing education and work experience. HTCC provides ongoing recertification to assure that individuals maintain clinical competence once initially certified. The Commission follows established guidelines for credentialing programs and is a member of the National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA).

For additional information on certified hand therapists, contact:



Hand Therapy Certification Commission, Inc.

11160 Sun Center Drive, Suite B
Beverly Gardens, CA 95670-6121