

wellness worth it massage therapy

Wellness Worth It: Massage Therapy - Your Investment in a Healthier You

Are you constantly feeling stressed, stiff, or just plain exhausted? Do you find yourself putting off self-care because it feels like a luxury you can't afford? Let's challenge that thinking. This article dives deep into why wellness worth it massage therapy truly is an investment, not an expense, for your physical and mental wellbeing. We'll explore the numerous benefits, address common concerns like cost and time commitment, and help you understand how regular massage therapy can significantly improve your quality of life. Get ready to discover why prioritizing your wellness, through massage, is a decision you won't regret.

Understanding the Multifaceted Benefits of Massage Therapy

Massage therapy isn't just about relaxation; it's a powerful tool for addressing a wide array of health concerns. The benefits extend far beyond a simple feeling of being pampered. Let's explore some key advantages:

1. **Stress Reduction and Mental Wellness:** In today's fast-paced world, stress is a major contributor to numerous health problems. Massage therapy helps reduce cortisol (the stress hormone) levels, promoting relaxation and a sense of calm. This can lead to improved sleep quality, reduced anxiety, and a more positive outlook on life. Studies consistently demonstrate the link between regular massage and decreased symptoms of depression and anxiety.
1. **Pain Management and Muscle Recovery:** Whether you're an athlete, suffer from chronic pain, or simply experience muscle stiffness from daily activities, massage therapy can provide significant relief. It helps to release tension, improve circulation, and reduce inflammation in the affected areas. This can be particularly beneficial for conditions like back pain, headaches, and arthritis. Deep tissue massage, for example, targets deeper muscle layers, releasing chronic knots and improving flexibility.
1. **Improved Circulation and Lymphatic Drainage:** Massage stimulates blood flow, delivering oxygen and nutrients to tissues and removing metabolic waste products. It also aids lymphatic drainage, supporting the body's natural detoxification process.

This improved circulation can lead to healthier skin, reduced swelling, and a boosted immune system.

1. **Enhanced Flexibility and Range of Motion:** Tight muscles restrict movement and can lead to injury. Massage helps to lengthen and relax muscles, improving flexibility and range of motion. This is particularly important for athletes and individuals with limited mobility. Regular massage can prevent injuries and improve athletic performance.
1. **Improved Sleep Quality:** As mentioned earlier, massage helps reduce stress and anxiety. This leads to a more relaxed state, making it easier to fall asleep and enjoy deeper, more restorative sleep. Consistent improvements in sleep quality can dramatically improve overall well-being and energy levels throughout the day.

Addressing Common Concerns: Time, Cost, and Accessibility

Many people hesitate to try massage therapy due to concerns about time, cost, and accessibility. Let's address these concerns head-on:

Time Commitment: Massage sessions typically range from 30 minutes to 90 minutes. While finding the time might seem challenging, even a short 30-minute session can offer significant benefits. Scheduling regular sessions, even monthly, can be more effective than infrequent longer sessions. Think of it as an investment in your health, just like you would schedule time for exercise or healthy meal preparation.

Cost Considerations: The cost of massage therapy varies depending on location, therapist experience, and type of massage. While it might seem expensive upfront, consider the potential long-term savings on healthcare costs. By addressing pain and stress proactively, you might reduce the need for more expensive medical interventions in the future. Many insurance plans now cover massage therapy, so check with your provider to see if it's covered under your plan.

Accessibility: Massage therapists are available in various settings, from dedicated spas and clinics to chiropractic offices and even some gyms. Online booking platforms make it easy to find therapists in your area and compare prices and services.

Finding the Right Massage Therapist for You

Choosing the right massage therapist is crucial for a positive experience. Consider the following:

Experience and Credentials: Look for a licensed and certified massage therapist with experience in the specific type of massage you're seeking.

Specializations: Therapists often specialize in different massage modalities, such as deep tissue, Swedish, sports massage, or prenatal massage. Choose a therapist whose expertise aligns with your needs.

Client Reviews: Check online reviews to get an idea of other clients' experiences.

Comfort and Communication: It's essential to feel comfortable and able to communicate openly with your therapist. A good therapist will listen to your concerns and tailor the session to your individual needs.

Making Wellness Worth It: Long-Term Benefits and Sustainable Practices

The benefits of regular massage therapy extend far beyond immediate relaxation. By incorporating massage into your wellness routine, you're investing in your long-term health and happiness. This proactive approach can lead to increased energy levels, reduced chronic pain, improved mood, and a greater sense of overall well-being.

Remember, wellness isn't a luxury; it's a necessity. Consider it a vital component of a healthy lifestyle, just as important as nutrition and exercise.

Conclusion:

Investing in your wellness through massage therapy is not just a treat; it's a strategic move towards a healthier, happier, and more productive life. By understanding the benefits, addressing potential concerns, and finding the right therapist, you can unlock the transformative power of massage and experience the true meaning of "wellness worth it." Prioritize your well-being; your body and mind will thank you for it.

FAQs:

1. How often should I get a massage? The frequency depends on your individual needs and goals. Some people benefit from weekly sessions, while others find monthly massages sufficient. Discuss your needs with your therapist to determine the optimal schedule.
1. What should I wear to a massage? Most therapists provide disposable underwear or encourage you to wear comfortable, loose-fitting clothing. Your therapist will guide you on what's appropriate for your specific type of massage.
1. Is massage therapy covered by insurance? Coverage varies depending on your

insurance provider and plan. Contact your insurance company to inquire about coverage for massage therapy.

1. What types of massage are available? Numerous massage types exist, including Swedish, deep tissue, sports massage, hot stone massage, prenatal massage, and more. Each type offers unique benefits and addresses specific needs.
1. What should I do after a massage? Drink plenty of water to help flush out toxins released during the massage. Listen to your body and rest if you feel tired. Avoid strenuous activity immediately after your session.

wellness worth it massage therapy: Spa Bodywork Anne Williams, 2007 This textbook guides massage therapists through each step of delivering a spa treatment—from consideration of the indications and contraindications to scope of practice issues, supplies, room set-up, specific procedure steps, and ideas for integrating massage techniques, spa products, and enhancing accents. While wet-room treatments are discussed, the focus is on dry-room treatments, which can be delivered in a wider variety of settings. More than 250 full-color photographs illustrate each technique and treatment. Treatment Snapshot boxes provide a quick overview of the treatment before the detailed step-by-step procedures section. Sanitation Boxes offer clean-up and sanitation tips. Sample Treatments include promotional descriptions, product recommendations, and recipes for creating inviting smell-scapes.

wellness worth it massage therapy: Orthopedic Massage Whitney W. Lowe, 2009-04-08 Fully updated and revised Orthopedic Massage has been written for those interested in understanding and applying massage as an intervention for soft-tissue disorders. Recent research into the physiological effects of massage has strengthened the justification for its use in the treatment of soft-tissue pain and injury conditions. Orthopedic soft-tissue problems are common among the general population, whether from sports, occupational activities, or chronic pain. This text presents a comprehensive and in-depth look at the physiological nature of these conditions and the massage treatments most effective for their relief. A particular contribution this text makes is its validation for the role of massage in treating orthopedic conditions. In addition, it aims to help the clinician understand the relationship between the soft tissues to which they apply their techniques and the overall orthopedic disorder affecting their clients. Although written chiefly for massage practitioners, the lessons it teaches are relevant to any practitioner who is concerned with the treatment of soft-tissue injuries. Includes detailed technical information, extensive illustrations, and reliable reference material essential to everyday practice. Provides a comprehensive approach to treatment of common soft tissue pain and injury. Explains common orthopedic problems in detail, addressing biomechanics, kinesiology, and anatomy. Provides an in-depth discussion of the physiologic rationale for soft tissue treatments and explains those most effective for each condition. Integrates treatment approaches from across the field and gives detailed, easy-to-follow steps for their application. Compares traditional treatments with soft tissue manipulation for each problem discussed. Clearly links anatomy, physiology, and biomechanics with clinical practice. Designed for quick and easy reference with more than 200 high-quality full colour illustrations and numerous

photos of treatment techniques. New clinical case studies and tips illustrate the techniques discussed. Now presented in full colour. New step-by-step photographs depict the techniques described in full detail. Increased artwork and photographs make learning more visual. Case studies demonstrate techniques and management in clinical practice Clinical hints and tips throughout. Greater guidance in treatment strategies to include 'Treatment Approaches' and 'Rehabilitation Protocol Considerations'.

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wellness worth it massage therapy: The Complete Guide to Massage Mary Biancalana, 2015-12-04 Discover the healing power of massage therapy! With The Complete Guide to Massage, you can use the power of touch to soothe aches and wash away worries. Each page guides you through the time-honored practice with step-by-step instructions and photographs for massaging yourself and others. You'll learn the different strokes and movements within a massage as well as techniques for popular methods, including prenatal massage, Swedish massage, and trigger point therapy. Whether you're looking to relieve muscle tension, alleviate pain, or simply de-stress, The Complete Guide to Massage will help you uncover a whole new world of healing and relaxation.

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wellness worth it massage therapy: Live Pain-free Lee Albert, 2018-02-15 Don't let chronic pain control you! Take charge of your health today with Live Pain Free: Eliminate Chronic Pain without Drugs or Surgery. In this book, you will quickly learn how to enjoy permanent pain relief in only a few minutes a day. Here Neuromuscular Therapist Lee Albert shares his Integrated Positional Therapy (IPT) techniques. They have already been used by thousands of people to successfully reduce or get rid of their chronic pain. Integrated Positional Therapy was designed to eliminate pain at its root cause and not to simply hide the symptoms. This system can help you to correct the muscle imbalances in your own body, right way, today. With easy-to-follow instructions and illustrative photos, Live Pain Free: Eliminate Chronic Pain without Drugs or Surgery, 2nd edition delivers simple, therapeutic self-care techniques that anyone can do. No previous experience or special equipment is necessary, and the practices are designed to fit your busy lifestyle. Many of the strengthening and stretching exercises can be done in the bed, on the couch or at the office. Live Pain Free: Eliminate Chronic Pain without Drugs or Surgery will teach you how to quickly identify the most common misalignments and get your body back into balance and back to health by using some simple techniques that you can do right now. What are you waiting for?

wellness worth it massage therapy: Massage For Dummies Steve Capellini, Michel Van Welden, 2010-05-11 Sooth away stress, banish pain, and share the language of touch with the

healing powers of massage What reduces pain, enhances athletic performance, job efficiency, improves the circulation, raises immune efficiency, promotes the healing of tissues, increases the functioning of the skin, enhances focus and emotional balance, and improves appearance? Right, massage! So what are you waiting for? Discover how to knead your way to relaxation and wellness with this fun guide to the art of massage. With the help of numerous step-by-step hands-on photos and illustrations, *Massage For Dummies*, 2nd Edition shows you, move by move, how to harness the healing power of touch. In no time you'll master the basics and learn how to give and receive a therapeutic massage. 25% new and expanded content in this edition Covers an array of techniques, from Swedish to Deep Tissue and sports massage to self-massage The newest strokes and techniques that can relieve specific painful conditions Hands-on and extremely practical, *Massage For Dummies*, 2nd Edition shows you how to integrate massage and its benefits into your everyday life.

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wellness worth it massage therapy: Mosby's Fundamentals of Therapeutic Massage Sandy Fritz, 2004 In this update of the 2000 edition, Fritz, the owner and head instructor of a school of

therapeutic massage and bodywork in Michigan, treats touch as a form of communication and expands coverage of ethical and legal issues, contra/indications for massage, and condition assessment and management. The treatment of medical terminology, core principles, and techniques is enhanced by color illustrations, case studies, review questions, resources and other appended information. The first edition was published in 1995. Annotation : 2004 Book News, Inc., Portland, OR (booknews.com).

wellness worth it massage therapy: Neal's Yard Remedies Complete Massage Neal's Yard Remedies, 2019-09-05 Explore in detail the profoundly effective power of touch, led by experts at Neal's Yard Remedies. Want to really understand the health and wellness benefits of massage? Interested in practising massage at home or considering taking a course? Let this book be your guide to everything from effleurage to epineuria. All the core strokes and massage techniques that form the foundation of massage practice are shown photographically with detailed annotations and integrated arrows showing the direction and application of pressure. Annotated anatomy and physiology illustrations show you how different levels of pressure work the muscles, and the profound effect massage can have on the nervous system and on cardio and lymphatic health. Learn about the key disciplines, from Swedish to shiatsu, reflexology and hot stone therapy. Access over 30 bespoke massage sequences, tailored to treat specific complaints and special client groups, such as pregnant women, babies, and those recovering from surgery. Find out how to prepare physically and mentally, and get the lowdown on oils and massage beds, diffusers and candles. And if you're receiving a massage, discover why drinking water before and after is important and how focusing on breathing enhances muscle relaxation. Become an expert in all that massage has to offer and share its miraculous health benefits.

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wellness worth it massage therapy: Introduction to Massage Therapy Mary Beth Braun, Stephanie J. Simonson, 2008 This introductory textbook instills the skills and knowledge needed to become—and excel as—a professional massage therapist. Enhanced by full-color illustrations and photographs, the text integrates functional anatomy, physiology, and pathology with massage therapy techniques and offers extensive 3D anatomical information. Communication, documentation, safety, self-care, and business practices are also covered. This edition features expanded coverage of hydrotherapy, Eastern techniques, sanitation and hygiene, HIPAA, and key topics tested on the National Certification Exam. Other new features include critical thinking exercises and boxes highlighting contraindications to massage or specific strokes. A bound-in Real Bodywork DVD features outstanding video clips of massage sequences.

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wellness worth it massage therapy: Mosby's Fundamentals of Therapeutic Massage - E-Book Sandy Fritz, Luke Allen Fritz, 2020-02-13 Success in massage therapy begins with a solid foundation in the fundamentals! Mosby's Fundamentals of Therapeutic Massage, 7th Edition helps you build the skills you need, from assessing problems and planning treatment to mastering massage techniques and protocols. Hundreds of photographs demonstrate massage techniques step by step, and case studies bring concepts to life. 'How-to' videos on the Evolve companion website show manipulation techniques, body mechanics, positioning and draping, and more. If you want to prepare for licensing and certification exams and succeed in practice, this resource from massage therapy expert Sandy Fritz is your text of choice. - Comprehensive coverage includes all of the fundamentals of therapeutic massage, including massage techniques, equipment and supplies, wellness, working with special populations, and business considerations; it also prepares you for success on licensing and certification exams. - Step-by-step, full-color photographs demonstrate massage techniques and protocols by body area. - Three hours of video on the Evolve website demonstrate techniques and body mechanics — each clip is narrated and performed by author Sandy Fritz — as well as review activities for licensing exams. - Proficiency exercises provide opportunities to practice and apply what you are learning. - Case studies offer practice with clinical reasoning and prepare you to address conditions commonly encountered in professional practice. - Coverage of body mechanics helps you to create an ergonomically effective massage environment and to determine appropriate pressure, drag, and duration application while applying massage methods. - Coverage of multiple charting methods helps you develop record-keeping and documentation skills, including SOAP and computer charting with simulation on Evolve. - Learning features include chapter outlines, objectives, summaries, key terms, practical applications, activities and exercises, and workbook-type practice. - Review tools include matching exercises, short answer questions, fill-in-the-blank questions, drawing exercises, and critical thinking questions, all available on Evolve. - Research Literacy and Evidence-Based Practice chapter includes new research findings and explains how research is done, and how to read and understand it. - Adaptive Massage chapter explains how to address the needs of specific populations, from pregnant women and infants to hospice patients and people with physical impairments. - Massage Career Tracks and Practice Settings chapter covers massage therapy services offered at spas, and looks at the spa as a possible massage career. - In-depth coverage of HIPAA shows how to store records in a HIPAA-compliant manner and explains HIPAA requirements and training. - Foot in the Door boxes outline the professional skills expected by prospective employers. - Updated Basic Pharmacology for the Massage Therapist appendix provides up-to-date information on common medications.

wellness worth it massage therapy: The Complete Massage Therapy Career Guide - The Most Comprehensive Resource for a Successful Career in Massage Therapy Neal Lyons, 2013-06-06 Congratulations on deciding to become a massage therapist! This is one of the most appreciated professions because of the satisfaction you will deliver to others. Massage therapists are high in demand no matter where you live, and the need is only growing with time. More and more people are realizing the true benefits of incorporating regular massages in their routines, thus making it part of their lifestyles. Not only are you guaranteed a lucrative career as a therapist, the jobs are also abundant and only growing. Massage therapists help individuals relieve pain caused by day to day stress build-up, body tightening, injury or illness. Many people these days have incorporated regular massages in their lifestyle routines to proactively mitigate physical problems, maintain good posture and just feel better. A massage therapist's role is very important and extremely meaningful, which is why the demand for this service has continuously increased over time. It has become one of the most popular careers sought after by many today. Most practicing therapists are employed by hospitals, clinics, sports facilities and smaller private companies that are everywhere. In addition, many massage therapists work independently as either business contractors or in private homes. No matter where you live, there will always be demand for your services and thus several options near you that offer these jobs. Whether you are just now starting your career in the massage field, or want to grow your existing career, this book's goal is to help you meet your objectives. In the next

few chapters you will find information about the requirements you need to become a massage therapist, information on massage therapy schools, online schooling options, jobs, salaries, career growth and more. There is an extremely high demand for massage therapists. With increased population growth, awareness, health consciousness and active lifestyles, the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) expects massage therapist jobs to grow another 20-30% in the next couple years. Because of the growing demand for massage therapists, many are becoming more interested in this professional career. Unfortunately, most do not know what the requirements are, how to get into the field and how to thrive in a profession that is saturated with so many other therapists. Similarly, many others who are already practicing as massage therapists do not know about the options to advance their careers through either additional training, the appropriate networking opportunities, diversification, specialization and more. All the best to you and here's to your career success!

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Summary

wellness worth it massage therapy: Rise and Shine Kate Oliver, Toby Oliver, 2021-12-02

Invite more happiness, wellbeing and success into your life, one morning at a time The way you start your morning matters - it sets the tone for the rest of your day, shaping your mood, focus and productivity. In Rise and Shine, psychologist Kate and therapist Toby share their innovative approach to embracing mornings: the S.H.I.N.E. method. A unique and flexible way to build positive, long-term habits, S.H.I.N.E. represents the five elements we all need in our mornings: · Silence - create stillness, peace and reflection · Happiness - discover techniques to help you begin the day on the right side of bed · Intention - find practices that empower you to shape your day · Nourishment - feed your mind, body and soul · Exercise - get your body moving, creating energy for the day ahead Based on the latest scientific research, as well as ancient traditions and insights gathered from decades of personal and professional experience, Rise and Shine offers thirty different practices that will encourage you to curate a routine that blends seamlessly with your lifestyle. Because by changing your mornings, you can change your life.

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systems. Learn techniques for inventory management, staff training, and customer service excellence. Discover effective marketing strategies to attract and retain customers, including digital marketing, social media engagement, and local advertising. Gain insights into financial management, including budgeting, cost control, and pricing strategies to optimize profitability and ensure long-term sustainability. Legal and Compliance: Navigate regulatory requirements and ensure compliance with industry laws through the ideas presented. Why Choose How to Start a Business books? Whether you're wondering how to start a business in the industry or looking to enhance your current operations, How to Start a Business books is your ultimate resource. This book equips you with the knowledge and tools to overcome challenges and achieve long-term success, making it an invaluable part of the How to Start a Business collection. Who Should Read This Book? Aspiring Entrepreneurs: Individuals looking to start their own business. This book offers step-by-step guidance from idea conception to the grand opening, providing the confidence and know-how to get started. Current Business Owners: Entrepreneurs seeking to refine their strategies and expand their presence in the sector. Gain new insights and innovative approaches to enhance your current operations and drive growth. Industry Professionals: Professionals wanting to deepen their understanding of trends and best practices in the business field. Stay ahead in your career by mastering the latest industry developments and operational techniques. Side Income Seekers: Individuals looking for the knowledge to make extra income through a business venture. Learn how to efficiently manage a part-time business that complements your primary source of income and leverages your skills and interests. Start Your Journey Today! Empower yourself with the insights and strategies needed to build and sustain a thriving business. Whether driven by passion or opportunity, How to Start a Business offers the roadmap to turning your entrepreneurial dreams into reality. Download your copy now and take the first step towards becoming a successful entrepreneur! Discover more titles in the How to Start a Business series: Explore our other volumes, each focusing on different fields, to gain comprehensive knowledge and succeed in your chosen industry.

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wellness worth it massage therapy: Hands Heal Essentials Diana L. Thompson, 2006 This abbreviated version of Hands Heal, Third Edition is a practical guide to documentation in wellness massage. It is designed for massage therapists who do not provide therapy that would require physician referrals or insurance billing. Hands Heal Essentials offers wellness charting guidelines for energy work, on-site massage, and relaxation and spa therapies, along with sample completed forms and blank forms. Crucial information on HIPAA regulations is included. A front-of-book CD-ROM includes the blank forms for use in practice, a quick-reference abbreviation list, and a quiz tool to review key concepts. Faculty ancillaries are available upon adoption.

wellness worth it massage therapy: Hands Heal Diana Thompson, 2018-10-12 Publisher's Note: Products purchased from 3rd Party sellers are not guaranteed by the Publisher for quality, authenticity, or access to any online entitlements included with the product. This 5th Edition of Hands Heal offers massage therapy students comprehensive coverage of communication, assessment, and electronic and paper documentation skills, from taking client histories and setting functional goals to documenting treatment outcomes. Reflecting the latest changes in the curriculum and the profession, the book is more ELAP compliant, includes changes to ICD-10 and CPT codes, and updates to HIPAA regulations. The new edition incorporates the effect of the Affordable Care Act on manual therapists and offers increased emphasis on communication with doctors and other healthcare providers. Integrated electronic charting (EHR) coverage, new case studies and new case study types, and compelling new online videos help students master course concepts and prepare for practice.

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student-friendly text boasts more than 700 illustrations and expanded sections on neuroscience, research, and special populations, plus new line drawings in the kinesiology chapter of origins and insertions that match the painted skeletons found in most classrooms. It makes the essential principles of massage therapy more approachable and prepares you for success in class, on licensing and board certification exams, and in a wide range of therapeutic practice settings. Clear, straightforward approach simplifies complex content for easier understanding. Complete anatomy and physiology section, in addition to material on techniques and foundations, gives you all the information you need in just one book. Certification Practice Exam on Evolve mimics the major certification exams in format and content, builds confidence, and helps increase pass rates. Over 700 high-quality illustrations, including line drawings and halftones, clarify difficult concepts in vibrant detail. Case studies challenge you to think critically and apply your understanding to realistic scenarios, foster open-mindedness, and stimulate dialogue. Profile boxes provide an inspirational, real-world perspective on massage practice from some of the most respected authorities in massage and bodywork. Clinical Massage chapter focuses on massage in clinical settings like hospitals, nursing homes, and medical offices to broaden your career potential. Two business chapters loaded with skills to make you more marketable and better prepared for today's competitive job market. Video icons refer you to the Evolve site featuring about 120 minutes of video covering techniques, routines, client interaction sequences, and case studies that facilitate the learning process and the practical application of the material. Evolve icons listed in each chapter encourage you to go beyond the lecture and reading assignments and learn more on the Evolve site. Evolve boxes at the end of each chapter list Chapter Extras found on Evolve that reinforce concepts learned in the chapter. NEW! Revised line drawing color scheme for origin and insertion matches the painted skeleton found in most classrooms, maintains consistency, and prevents confusion in learning origin and insertion points on the body. NEW! Coverage of Thai massage provides up-to-date content on the most useful, in-demand modalities that are most often requested by clients - and better prepares you for what you will encounter during training and practice. NEW! Updated text reflects changes to the new board certification exam so you have the most up-to-date, relevant information - and are fully prepared to pass the current exams. NEW! Brand new Think About It, Webquest, and Discussion features in each chapter's Test Your Knowledge section build your vocabulary usage and critical thinking skills necessary for day-to-day work with clients. EXPANDED! More content on pain theories, the neuromatrix model, and pain management, plus updated guidelines for massage after surgery and injury, equips you with essential information when working in rehab. NEW! Updated instructor resources, featuring more TEACH lesson plan classroom activities and an additional 500 test questions, provide instructors with more ways to interact with and test students.

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