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**Italian Association of Physical therapists – Associazione Italiana Fisioterapisti**

**A.I.FI.**

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**Contact person:**

Elisa Pelosin

**Our office hours:**

<b>Mon.</b>	<b>10.00 am - 2.00 pm</b>
<b>Tue.</b>	<b>10.00 am - 2.00 pm</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>10.00 am - 2.00 pm</b>
<b>Thu.</b>	<b>10.00 am - 2.00 pm</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>10.00 am - 2.00 pm</b>



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### Country information:

**Population: 57.680.000**

**Number of Physiotherapists:**

- in the association: 7.400

- in the country: ca. 40.000

### Headquarters:

The Italian headquarter has 2 staff employees but no full time employed managing director. The association holds monthly executive meetings and furthers liaisons with other health care professions and authorities on all physiotherapy matters. Membership of the Italian association is available to all migrant physiotherapists. The association is not member of a trade union.

### Migration Information:

Click here for detailed information regarding the migration procedures for Physiotherapists to:  
[ITALY](#)

### Physiotherapy Education:

The Italian association has their own education department. There are 39 physiotherapy universities (with 110 places) in the country, graduating about 2.300 students per year. The education are of 3 + 2 years duration corresponding to 180 + 120 credit units (4500 + 3000 hrs). The education only takes place at universities and leads to an academic degree/diploma which allows for postgraduates courses. At present there is no state registration for physiotherapists so



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it is difficult to monitor professional development. Continuing education is encouraged but this is not developed on a formal basis. Physiotherapists are involved in teaching but not research. Italy has no recognition of physiotherapy specialists but negotiations are in progress.

### **Status of profession:**

Professional Title/ Qualification: Fisioterapista Legal protection of the title and the professional activity of the physiotherapist profession has been established. Professional ethics have been established, but disciplinary jurisdiction is actioned by the State. There is no requirement for the physiotherapist to be registered and/or have a licence to practice. The Ministero della Salute is responsible for the physiotherapy profession in Italy, and the Ministero dell'Università for the education. Unemployment for physiotherapists is more common in the south of Italy.

### **Practice of physiotherapy:**

The Italian association has not defined whether the physiotherapy services are determined by the profession or if the physiotherapist determines the clinical intervention of physiotherapy him/herself. Italy offers both public and private physiotherapy services. The insurance cover for physiotherapy is paid both through the national health care system and privately the patient.

### **Twinning:**

The Italian Association has not established any twinning activity and does not wish to do so.