



EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES of the Comprehensive Curriculum

1. Phase I- General Education Component

Upon completion of the Pre-PTA (general education) portion of the program, students will have acquired necessary biological, physical, physiological, and anatomical principles. Other principles acquired during this phase are related to social and behavioral sciences, health and wellness, English, the humanities, and math.

2. Phase II-Technical Education Component

After acceptance into and completion of the clinic phase II of the program, students will have successfully demonstrated entry-level competency verbally, in writing, or by practical application, the ability to work under the direction and supervision of a licensed physical therapist. Specific skills to be acquired during Phase II include:

- a. Communicating verbally and non-verbally with others in an effective, appropriate, and capable manner, recognizing and adapting to individual, socio-economic, and cultural differences, and demonstrating professional conduct and behavior.
- b. Demonstrating behavior and conduct which reflect
 - 1) A commitment to meet the expectations of members of society receiving health care services.
 - 2) A commitment to the expectations of members of the profession of physical therapy. Practice standards that are legal, ethical, and safe.
- c. Understanding the plan of care as written by the supervising physical therapist
- d. Demonstrating competence in interventions needed to carry out the plan of care:
 - 1) Functional Training
 - 2) Infection Control Procedures
 - 3) Manual Therapy Techniques
 - 4) Physical and Mechanical Agents
 - 5) Therapeutic Exercise
 - 6) Wound Management
- e. Demonstrating competence in data collection techniques including:
 - 1) Aerobic capacity and endurance
 - 2) Height, weight, length, and girth measurements
 - 3) Patient arousal, mentation, and cognition



- 4) Assistive, adaptive, orthotic, protective, supportive, and prosthetic devices
 - 5) Gait, locomotion, and balance
 - 6) Integumentary integrity
 - 7) Joint integrity and mobility
 - 8) Muscle performance
 - 9) Neuromotor development
 - 10) Pain
 - 11) Posture
 - 12) Range of Motion
 - 13) Self-care, home management, and community or work re-entry
 - 14) Ventilation, respiration, and circulation examination
- f. Recognizing when to report the following to the supervising physical therapist:
- 1) Adjustments in interventions within the plan of care in response to patient clinical indications. (Determines the effectiveness of physical therapy treatment procedures)
 - 2) Discontinuation of a treatment based on patient response
 - 3) Changes in patient status
 - 4) Clarification requests due to an intervention which is beyond that which is appropriate for a physical therapist assistant (Recognizes the scope of PTA abilities in the delivery of care)
- g. Demonstrating the ability to participate in educating other health care providers, patients, families and caregivers based on the plan of care or as directed by the physical therapist.
- h. Educating others and instructing members of healthcare about the role of the physical therapist assistant under the direction and supervision of the PT.
- i. Taking appropriate action in an emergency situation.
- j. Demonstrating ability to ability to effectively participate in discharge planning and follow up care either in writing or verbally as directed by the supervising physical therapist.
- k. Reading and understanding the health care literature.
- l. Performing the following administration tasks:
- 1) Interacting with other members of the health care team in patient-care and non patient-care activities.
 - 2) Providing accurate and timely information for billing and reimbursement purposes.



- 3) Describing aspects of organizational planning and operation for the physical therapy service.
 - 4) Participating in performance improvement activities (quality assurance).
- m. Demonstrating thorough, accurate, logical, concise, timely, and legible documentation that follows guidelines and specific documentation formats required by law.
- n. Applying the Standards of Practice of Physical Therapy, the Standards for Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant, and the Guide of Conduct of the Affiliate Member
- o. Practicing according to applicable state and federal laws
- p. Demonstrating Social Responsibility which reveals:
- 1) A commitment to meeting the needs of patients and consumers.
 - 2) An awareness of social responsibility, citizenship, and advocacy, including participation in community and service organization and activities.
- q. Pursuing career development committed to:
- 1) Continuous self-directed personal and professional career growth and developmental activities which incorporate lifelong learning opportunities (i.e. student club, fundraisers, notebooks, professional organization, community awareness, etc.)
 - 2) Recognizing the role of the physical therapist assistant in the clinical education of the physical therapist assistant students.