

JOB DESCRIPTION STAFF PHYSICAL THERAPIST

Department: Physical Therapy
Reports to: Clinical Manager
Ages of Patients served: Adolescence (12-15 years) through geriatrics

JOB SUMMARY

- Responsible for treatment of patients and communication with staff, patients, patient's families, and physicians.
- Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:
 - Providing direct patient care
 - Demonstrating fiscal awareness
 - Assisting with maintenance and operation of the department
 - Assisting in developing programs for the department

JOB DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES (in order of priority)

1. Participates in direct patient care:
 - Performs assessment according to appropriate department standards and protocol
 - Performs assessments in a timely manner
 - Performs assessments recognizing and addressing the needs of patients based on age
 - Performs assessments recognizing signs and symptoms that indicate risk situations
 - Evaluates learning ability of patient and significant others
 - Regularly demonstrates creativity, skill, and efficiency in designing and implementing the physical therapy treatment programs for patients of all types of disabilities and multiple medical problems
 - Identifies basic discharge planning needs
 - Identifies basic patient/family coping mechanisms and support systems
 - Develops realistic outcome criteria and discharge goals involving patient/family/significant others
 - Monitors the extent to which services have met the therapeutic goals relative to the initial and subsequent examination
 - Seeks planning assistance when therapeutic needs are beyond scope of expertise/knowledge
 - Clarifies physician orders as needed

Original Date: 9-21-01

Revised Date: 4/27/2023

Approved, Director of Clinical Services

Approved, Director of Human Resources

- Assesses the effectiveness of the plan of treatment as measured by the patient's progress toward goals
 - Performs treatments in a safe and timely manner
 - Performs treatments if appropriate with staff and family members as indicated
 - Individualizes teaching based on learning needs and abilities of patient/family/significant other
 - Documents treatment provided and ongoing observations
 - Recognizes, reports, and corrects unsafe patient practices
 - Independently utilizes complex equipment
 - Independently amends patient goals/plan of treatment with input from other health care team members
 - Plans treatment regime, discharge plan, home program in accordance with accepted American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) standards of care
 - Adjusts schedule to caseload to meet the demands of assessment and treatment of patients
 - Delegates patient care tasks to appropriate staff to carry out and provide the necessary supervision of the process
 - Communicates pertinent patient information to therapy staff, appropriate hospital staff, and physicians in a positive professional manner
2. Accountable for ensuring maintenance and care of the department and hospital as an orderly, clean, safe work area:
- Ensures operation and cleanliness of physical therapy equipment according to safety and infection control standards
 - Plans, communicates, cooperates with other hospital personnel in maintaining an orderly, clean, safe work area
 - Reports any defective equipment to the Clinical Manager
 - Ensures proper levels of supplies and equipment in designated areas
 - Completes additional job tasks as assigned by the Clinical Manager
3. Accountable for planning and participating in Quality Assurance / Quality Improvement (QA/QI) monitors, reporting, and utilization of Physical Therapy Services:
- Plans, develops, and attends department inservices, meetings, and educational sessions

- Plans and develops staff professional skills, new programs to improve patient care outcomes
 - Promotes the development of criteria for proper utilization of personnel
 - Participates in inter/intra departmental QA/QI planning and studies as assigned by the Clinical Manager
 - Plans and develops educational programs for hospital personnel, physicians, and the community
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- In order to meet the demands associated with the profession, requirements include but are not limited to the following:

- **Strength and Endurance**

Strength and Endurance

Physical Demands	How Often Used
Standing	Frequently
Walking	Frequently
Sitting	Frequently
Lifting (up to 75 pounds)	Occasionally
Carrying	Occasionally
Pushing	Frequently
Pulling	Occasionally

- **Balance and Coordination**

Balance and Coordination

Physical Demands	How Often Used
Balancing	Frequently
Climbing	N/A
Crouching	Occasionally
Crawling	Occasionally
Stooping	Frequently

Kneeling	Occasionally
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Reaching	Frequently
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Manual Dexterity	Frequently
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Tactile Sensitivity	Frequently
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- Communication

Communication

Physical Demands	How Often Used
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Talking	Frequently
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Hearing	Frequently
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Seeing	Frequently
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Communicating	Frequently
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JOB SPECIFICATIONS

Minimum Education

Bachelor of Arts/Science or Masters of Science in Physical Therapy from an accredited APTA program

Minimum Experience

One year clinical experience as a Physical Therapist or Physical Therapy Intern

Skills/Abilities

- Current knowledge of hospital and department policies and procedures
- Good communication and interpersonal relationships with patients, visitors, physicians, employees and the community
- Follows all hospital and departmental safety policies to prevent injuries and exposures

Required Certification/Registration

- Current Basic Life Support, or CPR certification

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- Licensure by the California State Board of Medical Quality Assurance to practice Physical Therapy

Employee Signature

Date