



PHYSICAL THERAPIST JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Summary:

Physical therapists provide a variety of medical services to help individuals who have been injured or physically affected by illness to recover or improve function. A Physical Therapist must be able to evaluate a patient's condition and devise a customized physical rehabilitation and treatment plan to enhance strength, flexibility, range of motion, motor control, and reduce any pain, discomfort and swelling the patient is experiencing.

Qualifications:

- Education: Graduate from an accredited physical therapy program. Current license as a Physical Therapist as required by state
- Experience: One year full time experience as a Physical Therapist
- Certification: Current CPR/BLS Certification

Duties and Responsibilities

The Physical Therapist is expected to practice safe and ethical care within his/her scope as defined by the State Regulatory Agency under the direction of a Rehabilitation Department Head. The Physical Therapist should understand his/her own limitations, seeking advice and assistance when necessary. Specific duties may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Demonstrate & articulate sound clinical reasoning in synthesizing complex evaluation data identifying diagnosis and developing a comprehensive plan of care.
- Develop and update appropriate plan of care in collaboration with the patient/family and related to the person's age and lifestyle with measurable long and short term goals and a defined D/C plan
- Understand the role of physical therapy in the context of the patient's age, total needs perspective and environment
- Perform age appropriate competency skills in area of practice and with respect to individual patient's problems.
- Follow intervention protocols and alter plan of care appropriately.
- Discharge patient when goals have been met or medical necessity is no longer warrants intervention.
- Establish provisions for continuing services/follow up as needed.
- Work cooperatively with supervisors and peers to contribute to the overall productivity of the team.
- Utilize support personnel (aides, assistants) as appropriate and available.
- Actively support and participate in patient coverage efforts across all divisions within the department as necessary.
- Assess the learning needs and capabilities of patients and caregivers.
- Initiate patient and family education in a timely manner relative to age, LOS, readiness to learn, and emotional status.
- Utilize appropriate methods and materials for effective learning, monitoring response to education, and adapting program appropriately.

- Ensure that patient/family understands when and how to access further intervention.
- Patient care documentation is timely, legible, and efficient.
- Documentation is concise, pertinent and meets the department's documentation standards.
- Oral reporting is clear, concise, relevant, and timely.
- Cooperates with other personnel to achieve departmental objectives and maintain good employee relations with interdepartmental personnel
- Accurately report patient status to supervisor
- Utilize resources and materials in an efficient and safe manner
- Performs all duties promptly in a competent and caring manner
- Present a neat appearance and dress in compliance with the client facilities' policies
- While on assignment, the Physical Therapist is responsible and accountable to their assigned patients and to the client institution. The Physical Therapist is under the direct supervision of the Department Head or other assigned personnel and must have the ability to follow directions/instruction from his/her supervisor.

Essential Functions:

- Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing
- Participates in continuing education and learning experiences to enhance and maintain current knowledge and skills for continued competence
- Perform all duties using proper body mechanics
- Frequently move/lift between 50-100 pounds, depending on assignment requirements
- Stand for long periods with frequent squatting, twisting, bending, kneeling and reaching to prepare equipment, materials or objects in order to provide patient care or maintain the patient environment
- Sensory requirements include speech for communication and vision, smell, touch and hearing to assess patient status.
- Problem solving skills
- Manual dexterity and fine motor coordination
- Ability to work in a stressful environment
- Consistent attendance is required to assure that the client facilities' needs and patient needs are met.
- To comply with all client facilities' policies, procedures and practices
- To comply with all client policies and to uphold our standards of excellence while on assignment at our client facilities.

Working Conditions:

The Physical Therapist must understand and accept the possibility of exposure to inside environmental conditions, such as noise, infectious/communicable diseases, blood and bloodborne diseases, chemicals and/or chemical fumes, odors, gases and dusts. There is also the possibility of physical injury/verbal abuse from an out of control patient and/or visitor. Frequent exposures to distressed patients, families or visitors.
