COURSE: PTA 245 – Clinical Affiliation II (6 weeks)

INSTRUCTOR: Designated Clinical Instructor from the community-based physical therapy setting, who has a minimum of one (1) year of clinical experience and LATI Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is a clinical practicum learning experience that takes place in a community-based physical therapy setting over a period of six consecutive weeks. It occurs after the completion of the first and second year of coursework and the Clinical Affiliation I. The student attends the clinic setting each day for a full workday. While in the clinic setting, the student practices physical therapist assistant procedures necessary for patient care. The clinical instructor provides opportunities for the student to observe and implement physical therapist assistant standards of practice.

The following is a list of the classroom coursework that the student is expected to apply during clinical affiliation II:

Anatomy
Human Physiology
Composition
Automated External Defibrillator
General Psychology
Medical Terminology
Fundamentals of Speech
Applied General Math
Introduction to Sociology
Introduction to Physical Therapist Assisting
Fundamentals of Physical Therapist Assisting
Ethics and Issues in Physical Therapy
Kinesiology
Physical Agents and Massage
Observation and Measurement
Pathology for the PTA
Theories of Therapeutic Exercise
Electrotherapy

Students will demonstrate the following skills at the level of instruction indicated:

Exposed to Skill
Student has received instruction and testing, but may or may not have applied the skill.

Physical Agents:
Infrared
Ultraviolet

Demonstration Skill
Student has practiced this skill and faculty have observed demonstration of this skill, but has not been tested for competency.

Physical Agents:
Hydrotherapy

Competency Skill
Student has practiced and been tested on this skill in the lab to assure competency.

Physical Agents:
Paraffin
Ultrasound
Short wave Diathermy
Cryotherapy: ice packs and ice massage
Thermodiathermy: hot packs
Contrast Baths

Electrotherapy:
NMES and Russian
TENS
Interferential Current
High Volt Pulsed Current
Iontophoresis
Ultrasound/E-stim combo treatment
Traction
Range of motion
Manual muscle testing
Goniometry
Vital signs
Sensation testing
Adaptive/assistive devices
Mobility skills

First Aid

Electrotherapy:
Biofeedback
Microcurrent

Tilt table
Bandaging
Therapeutic massage
Patient positioning/draping
Wound care/ sterile technique
Postural assessment/training
Identify architectural barriers
Postural drainage
Exposure To Skill | Demonstration Skill | Competency Skill
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Breathing exercises | Universal Precautions and Infection Control techniques | Universal Precautions and Infection Control techniques
PNF techniques | Ambulation training | Ambulation training
Patient education skills | Patient transfers | Patient transfers
Aerobic conditioning | Segmental length, girth, volume | Segmental length, girth, volume
Orthotic and Prosthetic training | Strengthening exercise | Strengthening exercise
Flexibility exercise | Flexibility exercise | Flexibility exercise
Assess skin | Documentation | Documentation
Continuous passive motion | Intermittent Compression Pump | Intermittent Compression Pump
Body mechanics | CPR/AED | CPR/AED
Balance and coordination assessment | Exercise for balance and coordination | Exercise for balance and coordination
Functional activities | Pain assessment | Pain assessment

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:** Students participate in hands-on patient care at the clinical site under the direction of the clinical instructor, participate in all physical therapist assistant duties associated with patient care, such as documentation, provide an in-service to the staff at the clinical site, complete weekly summaries, complete a timesheet, complete a Facility Clinical Instructor Evaluation Report, and review the “Clinical Performance Instrument” with the clinical instructor.

**LENGTH OF COURSE:** 240 contact hours 4 semester credits

**TEXT:** All of the texts used with the classes listed above under course description. This should be brought along during the clinical for reference.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Perform in a safe manner that minimizes risk to patient, self, and others.
2. Conduct self in a responsible manner.
3. Interact with others in a respectful manner.
4. Adhere to ethical standards.
5. Adhere to legal standards.
6. Communicate in ways that are congruent with situational needs.
7. Produce documentation to support the delivery of physical therapy services.
8. Deliver established patient care to reflect respect for and sensitivity to individual differences.
9. Participate in patient status judgments within the clinical environment based on the plan of care established by the physical therapist.
10. Obtain accurate information by performing selected data collection consistent with the plan of care established by the physical therapist.
11. Discuss the need for modifications to the plan of care established by the physical therapist.
12. Perform physical therapy interventions in a technically competent manner.
13. Educate other (patients, family, caregivers, staff, students, other health care providers) using relevant and effective teaching methods.
14. Participate in activities addressing quality of service delivery.
15. Participate in addressing patient needs for services other than physical therapy.
16. Manage resources (e.g., time, space, and equipment) to achieve goals of the clinical setting.
17. Participate in fiscal management of the physical therapy clinical setting.
18. Use physical therapy aids and other support personnel according to legal standards and ethical guidelines.
19. Implement a self-directed plan for career development and lifelong learning.
20. Assist the physical therapist in addressing primary and secondary prevention needs of individuals and groups.
21. Perform at a minimum of two thirds of the expectations of an entry level physical therapist assistant.
PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:

1. This course is either pass or fail. A passing grade is determined by achieving the minimum standards on the Clinical Performance Instrument for Clinical Affiliation II. The Clinical Performance Instrument (CPI) will be graded using a scale based upon the student’s average performance level as determined by the CPI. At the conclusion of Clinical Affiliation II, the rating of student performance is expected to be at the intermediate performance level.

   The ACCE may also take the following into consideration when assigning the grade: clinical setting, experience with patients in that setting and skills required for the setting, progression of performance from mid-experience to final evaluations, whether or not “significant concerns” box or “with distinction” box were checked, congruence between the CI’s narrative comments, and other site visit information.

2. Punctual daily attendance is required. Most sites prefer students to be at the site a minimum of 10 minutes prior to the beginning of the day. A call should be made to the clinical facility and the LATI ACCE to report an absence or lateness. Inappropriate handling of absences will be reflected on the CPI (2.).

3. The student is responsible to complete an in-service or project on a pertinent topic of physical therapy; applicable to the clinical setting he/she is in.

4. The student is responsible for completing weekly summaries.

5. The student is responsible to complete the Facility Clinical Instructor Evaluation Report and review it with the Clinical Instructor at the end of the clinical. It should be signed and returned to the ACCE upon completion of the clinical affiliation.

6. The student and the clinical instructor should review the “Clinical Performance Instrument” both at midterm and the final.

7. The student must also have completed and returned to the ACCE the following paperwork: weekly summaries (6), copy of the in-service presented or project completed, completed timesheet to include signatures, the Facility Clinical Instructor Evaluation Report, and the Clinical Performance Instrument signed by all parties both at the midterm and the final evaluation.

GRADING CRITERIA: Once all of the above information under performance standards must be received, reviewed and determined that the program standards have been met, the student will receive a passing grade. If these are not met, the student will receive a failing grade.

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