



PTA 6

CLINICAL PRACTICUM I

SYLLABUS AND COURSE INFORMATION PACKET

WINTER 2017

3 credits
Full Time Clinical Rotation

Prof. Christina McVey
Office: S129
Phone: 718-368-5727
e-mail: christina.mcvey@kbcc.cuny.edu



KINGSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Physical Therapist Assistant Program

Course Syllabus

PTA 6
Clinical Practicum I

Course Description:

This course represents the students' initial eight week, full time clinical experience as assigned by the Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education. Under the supervision of clinical faculty at a facility providing physical therapy services, the student interacts with patients, provides physical therapy interventions, and assists the therapist in measurements and complex procedures. The student applies his/her knowledge and practices the skills of transfer and gait training, the application of physical agents of heat and cold, therapeutic exercise, and basic assessment. A student must be assessed as being competent in all previous course work prior to the first clinical practicum.

Pre-requisites: BIO 12, PTA 4, PTA 5

Course Objectives

Under the supervision of clinical faculty the student will be able to:

1.0 Implement physical therapy interventions as outlined in the physical therapist's plan of care.

- 1.1. Perform a variety of therapeutic exercise techniques consistent with patients' status.
- 1.2. Perform physical therapy interventions demonstrating an understanding of the role of the physical therapist assistant in rehabilitation.
- 1.3. Recognize the impact of organizational structure, levels of authority, and fiscal considerations on the health care delivery system.
- 1.4. Implement therapeutic interventions demonstrating consideration of time management, therapeutic sequence, and rationale for intervention selection.
- 1.5. Perform therapeutic interventions demonstrating knowledge of universal and standard precautions.
- 1.6. Demonstrate appropriate sterile technique and bandaging.
- 1.7. Administer range of motion activities to patients with a variety of conditions.
- 1.8. Administer progressive resistive exercise using a variety of therapeutic equipment including manual resistance
- 1.9. Appropriately position and drape patients for effectiveness, safety and modesty.
- 1.10. Teach patients various gait patterns with various assistive devices and appropriate weight-bearing status.

- 1.11. Use, select, and modify wheelchairs to meet specific patient needs.
- 1.12. Perform patient transfer activities safely.
- 1.13. Demonstrate effective body mechanics to insure clinician and patient safety.
- 1.14. Effectively and safely administer thermal agents including; cryotherapy, superficial heat modalities, ultrasound, and shortwave diathermy.
- 1.15. Provide interventions and interact with patients and families considering influencing factors (psychosocial, cultural, economic, legal, ethical, etc.)
- 1.16. Appropriately maintain therapeutic equipment to maximize efficacy potential and safety.
- 1.17. Verify the effectiveness of teaching by analyzing patient performance.
- 1.18. Assist in discharge and alternative levels of care decision making.
- 1.19. Recognize aspects of the plan of care that may be outside the PTA's scope of practice and act accordingly.
- 1.20. Analyze the effectiveness of employed operational strategies including PT-PTA team strategies, patient scheduling practices, the use of physical therapy aides, etc.

2.0 Assess patients' rehabilitation/physical status and the efficacy of interventions.

- 2.1. Recognize the effectiveness of modalities and procedures in specific clinical situations.
- 2.2. Recognize clinical responses and situations that require the attention of the supervising physical therapist or clinical instructor.
- 2.3. Perform appropriate assessment and measurement techniques to assist the supervising physical therapist in monitoring and modifying the plan of care including: manual muscle testing, goniometry, anthropometrics, segmental length, girth and volume, pain, cognitive and mental status changes, vital signs, gait, and posture.
- 2.4. Monitor vital signs as appropriate.
- 2.5. Observe the effects of fatigue and appropriately modify therapeutic exercise.
- 2.6. Appropriately act when untoward signs (cyanosis, SOB, HTN, etc.) are observed during therapy sessions.
- 2.7. Identify intervention precautions and contraindications and act accordingly.

3.0 Effectively communicate with clinical instructor, physical therapy staff, and other members of the interdisciplinary healthcare team.

- 3.1. Effectively report patient progress in the medical record.
- 3.2. Effectively perform clerical and record keeping duties.
- 3.3. Effectively verbally report patient progress and status to clinical instructor and other health care personnel.
- 3.4. Inform the patient about the purpose, risks, and benefits of specific therapeutic interventions.
- 3.5. Demonstrate appropriate documentation of physical therapy interventions considering patient response, intervention parameters, long/short term goals, effectiveness and third party payer requirements.
- 3.6. Participate in quality assurance/improvement activities.

4.0 Effectively participate in patient/family education, academic enhancement, healthcare team teaching, and general clinical education activities.

- 4.1. Teach patients and families intervention philosophies, the role of the physical therapist assistant, precautions, self-management, and home exercise programs.
- 4.2. Teach physical therapy and other health care personnel through formal presentation of case studies or in-service presentations as assigned by the clinical instructor.
- 4.3. Demonstrate appropriate sensitivity and action recognizing the varied and simultaneous roles of patients and families as health care seekers, consumers, informants, and knowledge pursuers.

5.0 Demonstrate appropriate professional behaviors.

- 5.1. Attend and report to clinic on time.
- 5.2. Be prepared and attend to all assigned tasks.
- 5.3. Accept constructive criticism and respond and/or follow through appropriately.
- 5.4. Express self in a clear and easily understood manner.
- 5.5. Maintain appropriate personal hygiene.
- 5.6. Treat others with positive regard, dignity, and respect.

Grade Determination

Clinical Performance Instrument	80%
ACCE Assignments and visit	15%
Summative Exam	<u>5%</u> 100%

Grades for each affiliation are assigned and administered by the Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education based on the Clinical Performance Instrument (CPI) and other course criteria outlined below.

Clinical Performance Instrument

The Clinical Performance instrument is a standardized evaluation form which where the student is evaluated at an interim period and at the conclusion of the clinical experience. The student is assessed on clinical skills, communication skills and appropriateness of techniques. At the conclusion of the affiliation, a student must display a mark of 80% or better (based on 100mm Visual Analog Scale) on all red flag items and numbers 8, 10, 12 and an overall score of 75% or better (based on 100mm Visual Analog Scale) on all criteria.

Summative Examination

The student completes a multiple choice examination which covers all didactic material to date. This examination is given during one of the evening group meetings.

Assignments

From the Facility

The student is responsible to complete all assignments from their Clinical Instructor (CI) and/ or Center Coordinator of Clinical Education (CCCE) in a timely manner.

Inservices/ Case Study

During each affiliation, the student is required to present at least one case study or inservice decided upon by the CI and student. The student is required to follow any format or procedure regarding these presentations that the facility may mandate.

From the Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education

Self Evaluation

Each student is responsible for completing self evaluation on the CPI form at the midterm and final stage of the affiliation. This self evaluation is to be reviewed with the clinical instructor and then submitted to the ACCE at the end of the affiliation.

Weekly Journal

The student submits a journal consisting of weekly entries. The journal is submitted the sixth week of the affiliation. Each entry should consist of the following:

- list the pathological /surgical conditions of your patients
- list three interventions you have given a pt. that week and discuss how each intervention addressed the patient's problems
- discuss two new treatment activities you and / or your patient performed during the week
- write three personal goals you would like to achieve the following week (e.g. I will increase my productivity by seeing 8 patients within the scheduled day.)
- discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the week

Web –Based Discussions

The student participates in instructor generated web-based discussions related clinical topics. Discussions are facilitated via the student's BlackBoard account.

Site Evaluation Form

At the end of the affiliation, the student is required to submit an evaluation of their CI and the facility to the ACCE in person or by mail.

Clinical Site Visits

On – site visits by the ACCE or other faculty members provide the student, clinic, and the college with the opportunity to exchange views of your needs, performance, etc. and to insure correlation between the academic and clinical learning experiences. The ACCE or other faculty member will make an appointment with the Clinical Instructor (CI) and student. The ACCE may observe the student treating a patient. The ACCE will talk to the CI and student individually and then may meet with both CI and student together. In the event that the ACCE or other faculty member cannot meet with the student and CI in

person, a phone meeting will incur. The academic faculty assesses the students' clinical skills and abilities by observing a patient interaction. These meetings are to assist the student and the clinical instructor in identifying and dealing with real or potential problems. In addition, the ACCE will make additional site visits in the event of special circumstances such that a visit is considered necessary by the CCCE, CI or student.

Group Meetings

The student is required to attend and participate in three class meetings. One class meeting will be held prior to each affiliation and the remaining two meetings will take place in the evening during the affiliation. The purpose of these sessions is to discuss experiences in the clinical facilities. Patient treatments as well as interpersonal skills between patients and/or personnel are explored.

Student Instructions

No later than one month prior to the start of the clinical course the student receives a packet containing: a notification of clinical site, course objectives, student evaluation forms, and a clinical site evaluation form.

Each student must meet with the Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education no later than two weeks prior to the start of the clinical course.

Students must call their assigned facility no later than one week prior to the start date. Students must speak to the Clinical Instructor or the Clinical Coordinator of Clinical Education to clarify, start date and time, dress requirements, pre-requisite assignments, directions to the facility, etc. Additionally, students formally present an inservice or case study to physical therapy or other health care personnel as determined by the Clinical Instructor.

Keys to Success In The Clinic

Be on time!

Remember, when in the clinic, you are expected to perform as a practicing clinician. This means that you must be punctual. If the day starts at 8:30 AM, plan to be at the site by 8:15AM. Chronic lateness will not be tolerated in the clinic. If you know that you will be late to clinic, remember to call and speak with your clinical instructor.

Don't miss clinic!

The clinical facility makes special plans to accommodate you. Absences from clinic disrupts educational and patient care activities. Absences from clinic must be made up. Clinical education is vital to becoming a physical therapist assistant. Make sure you attend all clinical sessions.

Communicate with your Clinical Instructor!

Your Clinical Instructor (CI) has primary responsibility for your supervision, and learning in the clinic. You must communicate openly with your CI. If you have any questions concerning a particular assignment, speak with your CI before beginning. Be open to constructive criticism and be flexible. Your CI wants you to succeed and is there to help you. If there is a problem that cannot be resolved with your CI, contact the program's Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education immediately.

Always dress appropriately!

Remember, you are expected to act as you would as a practicing physical therapist assistant. You are expected to exhibit professional behavior and practices at all times. This includes appropriate dress.

**Access-Ability Services (AAS) serves as a liaison and resource to the KCC community regarding disability issues, promotes equal access to all KCC programs and activities, and makes every reasonable effort to provide appropriate accommodations and assistance to students with disabilities. Please contact this office if you require such accommodations and assistance. Your instructor will be glad to make the accommodations you need, but you must have documentation from the Access-Ability office for any accommodations.*

***Academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion. Additional information can be found in the College catalog (<http://www.kingsborough.edu/sub-registration/Pages/catalog.aspx>). Plagiarism is a violation of academic integrity. Plagiarism is the intentional theft(s) of someone else's intellectual property without attribution (proper credit). Determination and penalty – ranging from grade reduction to course failure – will be decided by the instructor.*

****Attendance is a vital part of the clinical learning experience. If a student is to be absent from the clinic, the student must call the facility (to speak with the clinical instructor or designee) and the Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education (ACCE) immediately. If a student misses more than one day of clinic, the day(s) must be made up after the affiliation, unless specific arrangements have been made. For each day absent, the student must make up two days. A student needing to make up days after the affiliation will receive an incomplete (INC) grade for the course and will be held from taking any further courses as per the Program Grading Policy. This procedure is part of the Student Responsibilities during Clinical Affiliation policy.*