



Job Title: Physical Therapy Assistant
Department: Rehab Services
Classification: Non-exempt
Reports to: 1. Chief Physical Therapist
2. Vice President of Operations

Summary

To provide professional PTA services by working under the supervision of the Physical Therapist in accordance with treatment plan and according to licensure designation from the Commonwealth of PA.

Essential Functions

- Determines treatment plan in conjunction with PT upon completion of the evaluation (by the PT).
- Performs evaluations/portions of evaluations as stipulated by the APTA and to PT Department guidelines.
- Monitors patient progress/response to therapy and alters treatment plan as required. Correspond with supervising PT any changes professionally.
- Submits accurate charges based on services rendered according to department policies and procedures.
- Utilize assistive devices to enhance a patient's functional independence. Trains patient and/or significant other in use.
- Fabricates splint/order orthotics as per PT guidelines and department policies and procedures.
- Demonstrates knowledge of standards of PT care when implementing PT interventions.
- Ensures supervision by the PT per APTA requirements and state regulations, including co-signing notes and treatment planning.
- Completes required documentation on medical record according to department policies and procedures.
- Adjusts communication style to suit the patient/significant other at their level of understanding.
- Communicates with other members of the PT Department routinely regarding caseload, patient status and response to PT intervention and the need for assistance and availability to assist based on daily caseload.
- Demonstrates an active role in acquiring/maintaining a caseload that satisfies productivity standards.
- Presents a departmental in-service after attending a continuing education seminar.
- Assists with departmental policy and procedure review as instructed.
- Provides instructions to students, volunteers and observers.

Education/Experience

- Must have a degree in physical therapy assistant from an accredited community or junior college, university or vocational-technical school. Must have Pennsylvania state licensure, which requires the degree and passing of the registration examination.
- Computer skills necessary including word processing and the use of the Internet. Experience in spreadsheets and databases is desired.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- **Required to maintain absolute confidentiality of patient care, patient accounts and hospital related matters.**

- **Required to abide by, and comply with, the provisions of the TAH Corporate Compliance Policy.**
- Communication skills necessary to effectively:
- Communicate observations and treatments with physical therapist.
- Communicate with other members of the health care team.
- Communicate with patients, families, S.O. to explain treatment plan, procedures and the purpose of P.T. intervention.
- Ability to plan and perform professional P.T.A. care, interact with patient/S.O. and other team members, occasional stressful situations.
- Analytical skills and organizational skills necessary to develop and implement a plan for physical therapy care appropriate to the unique needs of the patient. Problem solving in a timely, efficient manner concerning patient's mental and physical well-being to enhance a patient's functional independence.
- Ability to concentrate, prioritize, plan, react calmly, and perform as a professional physical therapist to resolve patient care problems, interact with patients, families and other team members, in occasional stressful situations
- Required to utilize positive Guest Relations principles in all interactions with patients, families, peers, third party payers and all members of the healthcare team.
- Required to establish and maintain the ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing with a variety of socioeconomic, religious and culturally diverse populations of patients, clients, families and the general public in order to gain confidence and cooperation and to establish and maintain contact with facility staff and others.
- Required to abide by, and comply with, established Departmental and TAH policies, procedures and standards.
- Required to establish and maintain acceptable level of attendance.
- Required to perform the duties of the position in a safe and efficient manner.
- Required to assist in maintaining the cleanliness of the work areas.
- Ability to remain calm and perform effectively during critical/emergency situations and pending deadlines.
- Ability to adapt to a wide range of physical and emotional situations and to seek assistance in the application of procedures sufficient to overcome problems.
- Ability to adapt working times or methods and perform effectively in order to meet established, critical deadlines.

Work Environment

- Normal patient care environment, inside a climate controlled environment with little exposure to excessive noise and dust. Occasional exposure to variations in temperature with moist heat and cold packs, exposure to electrical appliances. Employee may be required to perform onsite consulting for industries and/or businesses.
- Subject to patient care activities including toileting, occasional exposure to communicable diseases. May be required to deal with patient elements.

SPECIFIC JOB DEMANDS

- Strength: Medium Work - Lifting, Carrying, Pushing, Pulling 20 - 50 Lbs. occasionally, 10 - 25 Lbs. frequently or up to 10 Lbs. constantly.

- Stopping: Occasionally - Bending body downward and forward by bending spine at the waist, requiring full use of the lower extremities and back muscles.
- Reaching: Frequently - Extending hand(s) or arm(s) in any direction.
- Handling: Frequently - Seizing, holding, grasping, turning, or otherwise working with hand or hands. Fingers are involved only to the extent that they are an extension of the hand, such as to turn a switch or shift automobile gears.
- Fingering: Frequently - Picking, pinching, or otherwise working primarily with fingers rather than with the whole hand or arm as in handling.
- Feeling: Frequently - Noting attributes of objects, such as size, shape, temperature, or texture, by touching with skin, particularly that of fingertips.
- Talking: Frequently - Expressing or exchanging ideas by means of the spoken word to impart oral information to clients or to the public and to convey detailed spoken instructions to other workers accurately, loudly, or quickly.
- Hearing: Frequently - Perceiving the nature of sounds by ear.
- Near Acuity: Frequently - Clarity of vision at 20 inches or less.
- Accommodation: Occasionally - Adjustment of lens of eye to bring an object into sharp focus. This factor is required when doing near point work at varying distances from the eye.
- Color Vision: Frequently - Ability to identify and distinguish colors.
- Must have the physical abilities that allow one to walk/sit/stand/push-pull/lift/transfer patients/bend/squat/reach/manipulate and operate OT equipment.

Date Prepared: 01/18/2023