

431OHP - PHYSICAL THERAPIST I

4316HP - PHYSICAL THERAPIST II

DEFINITION

Under direction of the Supervising Therapist, to plan and perform physical therapy treatments for children with physical disabilities such as neuromuscular and/or musculoskeletal problems; and to do other work as required.

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

Physical Therapists, work with children with physical disabilities under the direction of a Supervising Therapist. Physical Therapists independently evaluate and implement treatment programs as prescribed by a physician. Physical Therapist I, is an entry level class for licensed therapists who lack specialized experience performing physical therapy for children with physical disabilities. Physical Therapist II, is an experienced class for licensed therapists who have specialized experience performing therapy with children.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

1. Evaluates and develops therapy programs for children with physical disabilities with medically eligible conditions: establishes treatment plans with functional goals and measurable objectives based upon evaluations and clinical observations; incorporates concepts of family centered care.
2. Provides therapy treatment as prescribed by the physician in charge of each patient; schedules and treats patients according to prescription frequency; manages the child's behavior to obtain desired therapeutic outcomes; monitors patient's response to intervention and modifies treatment as indicated to attain goals; participates in Individual Education Plan and review meetings.
3. Manages a caseload and maintains a productivity level of direct scheduled treatment time as established by the CCS programs; coordinates therapy schedule with other therapists, the child's school schedule and works with school districts to set up bussing for therapy sessions; develops and monitors classroom programs; may provide treatment at satellites without onsite Supervision.
4. Works with and communicates with parents/care givers; interprets evaluation findings, reviews parent folder and completes necessary paperwork during initial evaluation; provides and educates parents/care givers in home programs appropriate to patient's needs.
5. Maintains documentation of treatment according to therapy policies and procedures, such as evaluations, running and narrative notes, treatment records, and statistics.
6. Maintains current working knowledge of available durable medical equipment; identifies needs, recommends appropriate equipment, writes letters of medical justification for durable

medical equipment, obtains necessary documentation for authorization and ensures delivery and proper function/fit of equipment; develops, designs, and constructs or directs the construction of splints/orthotics for individual children. Instructs parents/caregivers on the maintenance and safety of equipment the construction of special equipment.

7. Provides consultation and training to Therapy Assistants, Aides, new Therapists, students and volunteers as assigned; Consults with schools, group homes and other community programs; may act for Supervising Therapist when so delegated.
8. Participates in unit operations, including ordering of supplies and housekeeping procedures. Participates in program development activities.
9. Makes home and school visits as needed.
10. Maintains professional competence by attending professional workshops, seminars, and other courses or meetings and utilizes professional literature; participates in MTU clinics, staff meetings, workshops, inservices, and parent meetings.
11. Selects appropriate patients for treatment by Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA) and supervises quality of treatment. Appropriately delegates case management activities to the PTA.
12. Maintains legal responsibility for all treatment and documentation provided by the PTA.
13. Completes all evaluations and progress notes on these patients and maintains supervision of the PTA as per CCS policy, in addition to the management of the therapist's own caseload.
14. Provides training as needed by the PTA to assure quality patient treatment.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

License Required

Possession of a valid license as a Physical Therapist issued by the Physical Therapy Board of California.

Or

Possession of Physical Therapist License Applicant Status with valid authorization from the Physical Therapy Board of California. Failure to obtain Physical Therapist licensure before the expiration of Physical Therapist Applicant Status may result in immediate termination.

Experience - Physical Therapist I

None required beyond the requirements for licensure or Physical Therapist Applicant Status.

Experience - Physical Therapist II

One year of supervised experience as a physical therapist in a program for children with physical disabilities or two years in the area of physical disabilities.

Knowledge of

The principles and methods of physical therapy and skill in administering physical therapy.

Skeletal anatomy, kinesiology, neurology, ROM, Manual Muscle test, and the basic pathology involved in neuromuscular and/or orthopedic handicaps, and the objectives of physical therapy treatment for treatments children with physical disabilities.

The physical and psychological problems of physically handicapped children and their families. Normal and abnormal child development.

Construction and use of adaptive equipment and splints/orthoses, including equipment suitable for classroom and home use.

Ability to

Understand and follow physician prescription.

Plan and implement a physical therapy program.

Skillfully apply physical therapy techniques in the assessment and treatment of patients.

Maintain assigned caseload.

Work under demanding deadlines.

Provide clear and understandable instructions to client, family members, teachers and others regarding client treatment and supportive needs.

Establish and maintain effective relationships with client, family members, the medical community and others engaged in the treatment and education of disabled children and adolescents.

Maintain written records and prepare progress reports according to program policies and procedures.

Work in schools or clinics with individuals or small groups of physically disabled children.

Demonstrate, instruct and observe students, therapy assistants and new therapists in proper treatment and medical record procedures. (Physical Therapist II)

Physical Requirements

Strength sufficient to exert force to pull and lift patients and equipment weighing up to 50 pounds; body mobility to extend hands and arms in any direction, walk, run, chase children on playground, stand, bend, and stoop; stamina to sit for up to one hour at a time; manual dexterity to grasp, manipulate/operate small objects and precision instruments, handwrite or key items into computer; vision sufficient to read calibrated measuring instruments, prescriptions and computer screen; hear and speak well enough to converse understandably in person and on the phone.

Environmental Conditions

Will be required to interact with clients/patients in emotional and occasionally hostile situations; work in an office/clinic environment; drive to community sites and to meetings;.

PW

11/20/07

