

PHYSICAL THERAPIST I

NATURE AND VARIETY AND SCOPE OF WORK

This is entry-level professional physical therapy work performed to address the health care needs of target populations (e.g., youth, adults, seniors) using recognized diagnostic and therapeutic techniques. Incumbents provide a variety of related physical therapy services addressing the health care needs of a diverse range of clients, patients, families, and groups from diverse cultural backgrounds. Incumbents perform the full range of professional work designed to promote health awareness and general wellness of target population. Incumbents experience frequent contacts with nursing personnel, patients, teachers, medical, and other personnel in order to coordinate and provide comprehensive physical therapy health care programs and services to the general public. Work assignments may expose the employee to infectious/contagious disease. Work assignments are performed within the framework of established physical therapy care standards and departmental policies and procedures. Work is performed under the close supervision of a higher level official and evaluated through observation, record review, and employee/management conference.

Upon satisfactory completion of a one (1) year probationary period entry-level incumbents may be non-competitively promoted to the II full-performance level at management's discretion.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (ILLUSTRATIVE ONLY)

Assesses the physical therapy health care needs/requirements of target populations, e.g., youth, adults, seniors).

Develops a comprehensive plan for administering physical therapy to target populations.

Coordinates and employs treatment approaches accomplished to meet treatment objectives.

Implements/adjusts physical therapy/health care plans for patients/clients.

Confers with and provides written reports of client progress and reaction to treatment to the prescribing physician.

Counsels patients from target populations.

Participants in meetings/workshops/training sessions/conferences.

Maintains accurate, complete, and retrievable charts, records, data statistics, logs, and files in order to document health care services provided.

Makes entries on a variety of documents (e.g., charts, logs, reports, forms, records, files, etc.) in order to record medical services information for use by health services personnel.

Provides general/specific information to callers/clients/patients/medical personnel in order to (1) respond to phone call and/or (2) refer them to the appropriate party.

Accesses medical records in order to (1) review/verify the file and (2) update information.

Teaches home physical therapy programs to clients/patients and their families and assists them in planning for appropriate equipment and home use.

Consults with prescribing physicians and other health care professional in order to discuss/share information/opinions.

Initiates appropriate action with target populations in order to gain compliance with appropriate policies and procedures.

Willingly and cooperatively performs tasks and duties which may not be specifically listed in the class specification or position description, but which are within the general occupational category and responsibility level typically associated with the employee's class of work.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of the principles, practices and procedures of physical therapy.

Knowledge of human biopsychosocial development.

Knowledge of assessment tools.

Knowledge of the effects of exercise, massage, heat bath treatment.

Skill in operating physical therapy equipment.

Skill in applying technical physical therapy procedures.

Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

Ability to develop plans for physical therapy treatment based upon prescribing physicians requests.

Ability to assess treatment needs/requirements.

Ability to maintain accurate and retrievable records.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Bachelor's Degree in Physical Therapy or related field from an accredited college or university or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

Possession of a license to practice physical therapy in the State of Maryland issued by the Board of Examiners.

Possession of a valid license to operate a motor vehicle when required for the performance of job-related duties at time of appointment.

Possession of a valid cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certificate at time of appointment.

NEW: CB-93-1993