

Vanderbilt Orthopaedics Nashville

Physical Therapy Assistant Student Objectives for Outpatient Therapy

1. Complete a thorough chart review and identify primary impairments from PT initial evaluation.
2. Be able to obtain medical information from EMR: x-ray, MRI, labs, physician notes and progress notes.
3. Implement therapeutic interventions that target primary impairments to work towards patient's goals within the prescribed plan of care.
4. Demonstrate proficiency in all modalities available in the outpatient setting, explaining rationales to patients. Be able to discuss the indications/contraindications/effects for each modality.
5. Modify/progress therapeutic interventions according to patient tolerance and ability.
6. Design and demonstrate a home exercise program for a new patient.
7. Progress a home exercise program for an existing patient.
8. Perform family/caregiver training or education.
9. Handle 90-100% of PTA case load for one week by the last week of the clinical rotation.
10. Complete all required documentation (i.e. Daily notes) prior to the beginning of the next business day.
11. Accurately communicate physical therapy needs to some of the external contacts:
 - a. Discuss your patient's case with the evaluating PT
 - b. Discuss your patient's case with the referring physician (if applicable)
 - c. Request authorization for therapy visits per discussion with supervising PT
12. Consistently perform tests and measures accurately for each body part.
 - a. Joint mobilizations
 - b. Range of motion (ROM)
 - c. Strength testing
 - d. Special tests (if applicable)
13. Demonstrate conflict resolution skills

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14. Collaborate with other disciplines where indicated.
15. Take advantage of specialties offered within Vanderbilt University Medical Center Physical Therapy Department if scheduling allows:
 - Acute care
 - Surgery observation
 - Pi Beta Phi –balance testing, wheelchair fitting, etc.
 - Pelvic Floor Rehab
 - Amputee training
 - Occupational/Hand Therapy
16. Prepare and present an in-service on a topic pertinent to outpatient orthopaedics.