

HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

Job Description

Physical Therapist Assistant

(Job Description, Class Specification & Minimum Qualification Requirements)

Entry	Pay Grade	HE-08	Job Code	6.314
Full Performance	Pay Grade	HE-10	Job Code	6.315

Function and Location

This position works in the physical therapy department of a hospital, clinic or long-term care facility and is responsible for implementing physical therapy care plans developed by a licensed Physical Therapist. The position may be required to work on shifts, including evenings, and weekends and holidays.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

1. Administer physical therapy treatment procedures and use therapy techniques within a designed treatment plan to meet the special needs of the patient.
 - a. Administer active (patient assists you in movements) and passive (all movements done for patient) manual therapeutic exercises and gross motor activities including range of motion and positioning exercises to patients with relatively stable or unstable conditions.
 - b. Administer physical therapy procedures, which may include therapeutic ambulation, exercises, therapeutic massage and modalities.
 - c. Adjust, train in use of, and care for braces, prostheses, ambulation aids, wheelchairs, and other supportive devices. Apply diverse types of orthotic and prosthetic devices to patients.
 - d. Instruct, motivate and assist patients, family members and/or caregivers in learning and improving patients' functional activities such as pre-ambulation, transfer, ambulation and activities of daily living.
2. Select and modify treatment techniques based on educated judgment and a good knowledge of the established treatment plan. Implement revisions to the treatment plan with the approval of the Physical Therapist.
3. Observe patients during treatments; compile and evaluate data, treatment response, and progress of patient, and record effectiveness of treatment.
4. Participate with the Physical Therapist in developing treatment goals and objectives for individual patients.

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5. Protect the safety and welfare of the patient under treatment.
6. Make oral and written reports of activities to the supervising therapist.

Other Duties

In addition to the key duties and responsibilities, this position may be assigned to:

Act as an assistant to the Physical Therapist when the Physical Therapist is performing tests, evaluations, and difficult treatment procedures; instruct, on an informal basis, other patient care staff working with the patient in correct positioning, range of motion exercises, body alignment and posture, ambulation, proper body mechanics in lifting and in other physical therapy practices; assist in the maintenance of physical therapy equipment; maintain a clean and safe physical environment; answer the telephone and take messages; keep accurate tally and tabulate all statistical data of physical therapy treatments; document and note progress in appropriate record; transport patients; take inventory; order supplies; assist the Physical Therapist in estimating equipment needs and equipment acquisitions; perform other clerical tasks; and perform other related duties as assigned.

Knowledge and Abilities used in Performing Key Duties at the Full Performance Level

Demonstrated proficiency in the application of all of the knowledge and abilities, specified below for the Full Performance level, in providing the full range of services to the patients of the work site, independently. Knowledge of the policies, procedures and work rules of the work site.

Supervision Provided By

A Physical Therapist provides supervision to the position.

Instructions Provided: Entry level employees are provided specific and detailed instructions; full performance employees are provided general instructions, and specific instructions in new and unusual situations.

Assistance Provided: Entry level employees are provided close guidance in performing tasks; full performance employees perform work independently, receiving specific guidance only in new and unusual situations.

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Review of Work: Entry level employees receive close and frequent review of work performed; the work of full performance employees is reviewed periodically to ensure that acceptable practices are followed.

Prerequisite Qualifications Required for the Entry Level

Education: Graduation from an accredited physical therapist assistant program or an accredited physical therapy program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education, its predecessor organization or its successor organization.

Experience: None required.

Knowledge and Abilities: Must have demonstrated knowledge of human anatomy; physiology; kinesiology; thermal agents; therapeutic exercise; traction; therapeutic massage; aquatic physical therapy; uses of various modalities; neuropathology; electrotherapy; universal handwashing procedures; and the ability to read, write, speak, understand and communicate effectively with others in English; safely manage patients in treatment activities, and stimulate, motivate, guide and teach patients to perform required movements and recognize their individual limitations; apply various modalities and thermal agents, traction, therapeutic massage, therapeutic exercise, aquatic physical therapy and electrotherapy; lift and transfer paralyzed and partially paralyzed patients to and from wheelchairs, exercise tables, beds, etc.; deal with a variety of patients and others and adjust to continuously changing situations; keep records and tabulate statistics; maintain equipment, supplies and the physical environment in an acceptable manner; and learn various specialized procedures and use of equipment peculiar to given patients or a particular program of service or facility.

Prerequisite Qualifications Required for the Full Performance Level

In addition to the qualifications required at the entry level:

Experience: One year of work experience as a physical therapy assistant which involved the performance of physical therapy work and related duties under the direction of a Physical Therapist.

Knowledge and Abilities: Must have demonstrated the implementation of physical therapy care plans developed by a Physical Therapist, care and use of equipment, providing instruction in physical therapy procedures to patients and others; demonstrated knowledge of applicable hospital/facility/program policies and procedures; and the ability to assist in evaluative tests, use specialized physical therapy procedures, select and modify treatment techniques upon approval of the Physical Therapist, and

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participate with the Physical Therapist in developing the patient's treatment goals and objectives.

Substitutions Allowed:

- a. Completion of all requirements for a bachelor's degree in physical therapy from a school of physical therapy approved at the time of their graduation, by an agency recognized by either the United States Department of Education or the Council on Post-Secondary Accreditation; or
- b. In the case of a foreign-trained person, a credentials evaluation agency recognized by the appropriate licensing agency of the State of Hawaii, indicating completion of an education program that has been determined to be equivalent to entry level Physical Therapist education in the United States, may be substituted for all of the education and work experience required for the entry and full performance level.

License Required:

A current license to practice as a Physical Therapist Assistant in the State of Hawaii at time of appointment.

Certification Required:

Certification in Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Workers must be obtained within six months of employment.

Desirable Qualifications: Patience; neatness; reliability; resourcefulness; and punctuality.

Health and Physical Requirements: All employees must meet the health and physical requirements deemed necessary to effectively and safely perform the essential functions of the position with or without reasonable accommodation.

ADDENDUM ATTACHED

Yes No