

**PHYSICAL THERAPIST STUDENT
EVALUATION:

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE
AND
CLINICAL INSTRUCTION**

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**American Physical Therapy Association
Department of Physical Therapy Education
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PREAMBLE

The purpose of developing this tool was in response to academic and clinical educators' requests to provide a voluntary, consistent and uniform approach for students to evaluate clinical education as well as the overall clinical experience. Questions included in this draft tool were derived from the many existing tools already in use by physical therapy programs for students to evaluate the quality of the clinical learning experience and clinical instructors (CIs), as well as academic preparation for the specific learning experience. The development of this tool was based on key assumptions for the purpose, need for, and intent of this tool. These key assumptions are described in detail below. This tool consists of two sections that can be used together or separately: Section 1-Physical therapist student assessment of the clinical experience and Section 2-Physical therapist student assessment of clinical instruction. Central to the development of this tool was an assumption that students should actively engage in their learning experiences by providing candid feedback, both formative and summative, about the learning experience and with summative feedback offered at both midterm and final evaluations. One of the benefits of completing Section 2 at midterm is to provide the CI and the student with an opportunity to modify the learning experience by making midcourse corrections.

Key Assumptions

- The tool is intended to provide the student's assessment of the quality of the clinical learning experience and the quality of clinical instruction for the specific learning experience.
- The tool allows students to objectively comment on the quality and richness of the learning experience and to provide information that would be helpful to other students, adequacy of their preparation for the specific learning experience, and effectiveness of the clinical educator(s).
- The tool is formatted in Section 2 to allow student feedback to be provided to the CI(s) at both midterm and final evaluations. This will encourage students to share their learning needs and expectations during the clinical experience, thereby allowing for program modification on the part of the CI and the student.
- Sections 1 and 2 are to be returned to the academic program for review at the conclusion of the clinical experience. Section 1 may be made available to future students to acquaint them with the learning experiences at the clinical facility. Section 2 will remain confidential and the academic program will not share this information with other students.
- The tools meet the needs of the physical therapist (PT) and physical therapist assistant (PTA) academic and clinical communities and where appropriate, distinctions are made in the tools to reflect differences in PT scope of practice and PTA scope of work.
- The student evaluation tool should not serve as the sole entity for making judgments about the quality of the clinical learning experience. This tool should be considered as part of a systematic collection of data that might include reflective student journals, self-assessments provided by clinical education sites, Center Coordinators of Clinical Education (CCCEs), and CIs based on the Guidelines for Clinical Education, ongoing communications and site visits, student performance evaluations, student planning worksheets, Clinical Site Information Form (CSIF), program outcomes, and other sources of information.

Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge the collaborative effort between the Clinical Education Special Interest Group (SIG) of the Education Section and APTA's Education Department in completing this project. We are especially indebted to those individuals from the Clinical Education SIG who willingly volunteered their time to develop and refine these tools. Comments and feedback provided by academic and clinical faculty, clinical educators, and students on several draft versions of this document were instrumental in developing, shaping, and refining the tools. Our gratitude goes out to all of those individuals and groups who willingly gave their time and expertise to work toward a common voluntary PT and PTA Student Evaluation Tool of the Clinical Experience and Clinical Instruction.

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SECTION 1: PT STUDENT ASSESSMENT OF THE CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Information found in Section 1 may be available to program faculty and students to familiarize them with the learning experiences at this clinical facility.

1. Name of Clinical Education Site Boone County Hospital

Address 1015 Union st

City Boone

State IA

2. Clinical Experience Number 1

3. Specify the number of weeks for each applicable clinical experience/rotation.

<u> </u> Acute Care/Inpatient Hospital Facility <u> </u> Ambulatory Care/Outpatient <u> </u> ECF/Nursing Home/SNF <u> </u> Federal/State/County Health <u> </u> Industrial/Occupational Health Facility	<u>10</u> Private Practice <u> </u> Rehabilitation/Sub-acute Rehabilitation <u> </u> School/Preschool Program <u> </u> Wellness/Prevention/Fitness Program <u> </u> Other <u> </u>
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Orientation

4. Did you receive information from the clinical facility prior to your arrival? Yes No

5. Did the on-site orientation provide you with an awareness of the information and resources that you would need for the experience? Yes No

6. What else could have been provided during the orientation? There was no orientation. An e-mail containing information about what to expect for the first day(s) would be helpful. I did receive a tour of the hospital on my first day and was oriented quickly within the first week.

Patient/Client Management and the Practice Environment

For questions 7, 8, and 9, use the following 4-point rating scale:

1= Never 2 = Rarely 3 = Occasionally 4 = Often

7. During this clinical experience, describe the frequency of time spent in each of the following areas. Rate all items in the shaded columns using the above 4-point scale.

Diversity Of Case Mix	Rating	Patient Lifespan	Rating	Continuum Of Care	Rating
Musculoskeletal	4	0-12 years	2	Critical care, ICU, Acute	1
Neuromuscular	3	13-21 years	3	SNF/ECF/Sub-acute	1
Cardiopulmonary	2	22-65 years	4	Rehabilitation	1
Integumentary	1	over 65 years	4	Ambulatory/Outpatient	4
Other (GI, GU, Renal, Metabolic, Endocrine)	1			Home Health/Hospice	1
				Wellness/Fitness/Industry	1

8. During this clinical experience, describe the frequency of time spent in providing the following components of care from the patient/client management model of the *Guide to Physical Therapist Practice*. Rate all items in the shaded columns using the above 4-point scale.

Components Of Care	Rating	Components Of Care	Rating
Examination		Diagnosis	4
• Screening	4	Prognosis	3
• History taking	4	Plan of Care	4
• Systems review	3	Interventions	4
• Tests and measures	2	Outcomes Assessment	3
Evaluation	4		

9. During this experience, how frequently did staff (ie, CI, CCCE, and clinicians) maintain an environment conducive to professional practice and growth? Rate all items in the shaded columns using the 4-point scale on page 4.

Environment	Rating
Providing a helpful and supportive attitude for your role as a PT student.	4
Providing effective role models for problem solving, communication, and teamwork.	4
Demonstrating high morale and harmonious working relationships.	4
Adhering to ethical codes and legal statutes and standards (eg, Medicare, HIPAA, informed consent, APTA Code of Ethics, etc).	4
Being sensitive to individual differences (ie, race, age, ethnicity, etc).	4
Using evidence to support clinical practice.	4
Being involved in professional development (eg, degree and non-degree continuing education, in-services, journal clubs, etc).	4
Being involved in district, state, regional, and/or national professional activities.	4

10. What suggestions, relative to the items in question #9, could you offer to improve the environment for professional practice and growth? I have no suggestions. I was happy to come in to work every day. The environment in the clinic was great to work in.

Clinical Experience

11. Were there other students at this clinical facility during your clinical experience? (Check all that apply):

- Physical therapist students
 Physical therapist assistant students
 from other disciplines or service departments (Please specify _____)

12. Identify the ratio of students to CIs for your clinical experience:

- 1 student to 1 CI
 1 student to greater than 1 CI
 1 CI to greater than 1 student; Describe The last three weeks or so of clinical, another student's CI took another job elsewhere, so my CI absorbed another student.

student's CI took another job elsewhere, so my CI absorbed another student.

13. How did the clinical supervision ratio in Question #12 influence your learning experience? It influenced my learning experience in an extremely positive way. She is a second year physical therapy student so there were many times where she was teaching me. We also got along really well so I enjoyed working with her.

14. In addition to patient/client management, what other learning experiences did you participate in during this clinical experience? (Check all that apply)

- Attended in-services/educational programs
 Presented an in-service
 Attended special clinics
 Attended team meetings/conferences/grand rounds
 Directed and supervised physical therapist assistants and other support personnel
 Observed surgery
 Participated in administrative and business practice management
 Participated in collaborative treatment with other disciplines to provide patient/client care (please specify disciplines) _____
 Participated in opportunities to provide consultation
 Participated in service learning
 Participated in wellness/health promotion/screening programs
 Performed systematic data collection as part of an investigative study
 Other; Please specify _____

15. Please provide any logistical suggestions for this location that may be helpful to students in the future. Include costs, names of resources, housing, food, parking, etc. There was plenty of parking at my clinical site. It was overwhelming looking for housing at first, but I was able to find a nice apartment on airbnb that worked out perfectly. I would suggest that if anyone at the clinic knows of people who have rooms/knows of places students can stay that would be extremely helpful! Students get free meals at the cafeteria for breakfast and lunch, you just have to wear your name tag. This was very helpful.

Overall Summary Appraisal

16. Overall, how would you assess this clinical experience? (Check only one)
- Excellent clinical learning experience; would not hesitate to recommend this clinical education site to another student.
 - Time well spent; would recommend this clinical education site to another student.
 - Some good learning experiences; student program needs further development.
 - Student clinical education program is not adequately developed at this time.
17. What specific qualities or skills do you believe a physical therapist student should have to function successfully at this clinical education site? Be able to communicate effectively with patients. This doesn't mean that you have to be comfortable in the beginning, but part of what makes patients comfortable with working with students is forming good relationships through communication. Also we willing to accept constructive criticism and try things that are outside of your comfort zone.
18. If, during this clinical education experience, you were exposed to content not included in your previous physical therapist academic preparation, describe those subject areas not addressed. We have not had MS III yet, which covers the spine. We also have not covered Neuro PT yet.
19. What suggestions would you offer to future physical therapist students to improve this clinical education experience? Review all MMT, goni, and special tests and be prepared to practice those things on patients even if your CI does not use them. Have a good knowledge base of exercises to give patients including progressions and regressions. Brush up on anatomy. Ask as many questions as you can!
20. What do you believe were the strengths of your physical therapist academic preparation and/or coursework for *this clinical experience*? Clinical anatomy, MS I and II, PT interventions. What I learned in these classes really helped me to treat patients safely and effectively.
21. What curricular suggestions do you have that would have prepared you better for *this clinical experience*? I have worked in a physical therapy office for over 2 years so I have experience working with patients daily and dealing with difficult situations as well as ensuring patient safety. I also used to work as a personal trainer and I am passionate about weight lifting, so I have a good understanding of exercises. My biggest suggestion is to get a job working in a clinic to get used to talking and working with patients.

SECTION 2: PT STUDENT ASSESSMENT OF CLINICAL INSTRUCTION

Information found in this section is to be shared between the student and the clinical instructor(s) at midterm and final evaluations. Additional copies of Section 2 should be made when there are multiple CIs supervising the student. Information contained in Section 2 is confidential and will not be shared by the academic program with other students.

Assessment of Clinical Instruction

22. Using the scale (1 - 5) below, rate how clinical instruction was provided during this clinical experience at both midterm and final evaluations (shaded columns).

1=Strongly Disagree 2=Disagree 3=Neutral 4=Agree 5=Strongly Agree

Provision of Clinical Instruction	Midterm	Final
The clinical instructor (CI) was familiar with the academic program's objectives and expectations for this experience.	5	5
The clinical education site had written objectives for this learning experience.	2	2
The clinical education site's objectives for this learning experience were clearly communicated.	5	5
There was an opportunity for student input into the objectives for this learning experience.	5	4
The CI provided constructive feedback on student performance.	5	5
The CI provided timely feedback on student performance.	5	5
The CI demonstrated skill in active listening.	5	5
The CI provided clear and concise communication.	5	5
The CI communicated in an open and non-threatening manner.	5	5
The CI taught in an interactive manner that encouraged problem solving.	5	5
There was a clear understanding to whom you were directly responsible and accountable.	5	5
The supervising CI was accessible when needed.	5	5
The CI clearly explained your student responsibilities.	5	5
The CI provided responsibilities that were within your scope of knowledge and skills.	5	5
The CI facilitated patient-therapist and therapist-student relationships.	5	5
Time was available with the CI to discuss patient/client management.	5	5
The CI served as a positive role model in physical therapy practice.	5	5
The CI skillfully used the clinical environment for planned and unplanned learning experiences.	5	5
The CI integrated knowledge of various learning styles into student clinical teaching.	5	5
The CI made the formal evaluation process constructive.	5	5
The CI encouraged the student to self-assess.	5	5

23. Was your CI'(s) evaluation of your level of performance in agreement with your self-assessment?

Midterm Evaluation Yes No Final Evaluation Yes No

24. If there were inconsistencies, how were they discussed and managed?

Midterm Evaluation Yes

Final Evaluation No inconsistencies

25. What did your CI(s) do well to contribute to your learning?

Midterm Comments He would quiz me on my knowledge and give me advice on how to improve my manual skills and body mechanics. He would talk to me about difficult situations we encountered and also work through cases to problem solve together.

Final Comments see above.

26. What, if anything, could your CI(s) and/or other staff have done differently to contribute to your learning?

Midterm Comments Patient evaluations were difficult for me because my CI used his clinical experience and knowledge to evaluate patients. I think students would benefit from practicing goniometry, MMT, and special tests during evaluations so that they feel confident in their skills.

Final Comments I had a great first clinical experience and I highly recommend this site to any student.

Thank you for sharing and discussing candid feedback with your CI(s) so that any necessary midcourse corrections can be made to modify and further enhance your learning experience.