

PHYSICAL THERAPIST STUDENT EVALUATION:

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE AND CLINICAL INSTRUCTION

June 12, 2003



**American Physical Therapy Association
Department of Physical Therapy Education
1111 North Fairfax Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314**

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.

Ad Hoc Group Members: Jackie Crossen-Sills, PT, MS, Nancy Erikson, PT, MS, GCS, Peggy Gleeson, PT, PhD, Deborah Ingram, PT, EdD, Corrie Odom, PT, DPT, ATC, and Karen O'Loughlin, PT, MA

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GENERAL INFORMATION AND SIGNATURES

General Information

Student Name _____

Academic Institution UMass Lowell

Name of Clinical Education Site Elite Rehab and Sports Therapy

Address 297 Daniel Webster Highway City Merrimack State NH

Clinical Experience Number 1 Clinical Experience Dates May 27, 2014-August 1, 2014

Signatures

I have reviewed information contained in this physical therapist student evaluation of the clinical education experience and of clinical instruction. I recognize that the information below is being collected to facilitate accreditation requirements for clinical instructor qualifications for students supervised in this academic program. I understand that my personal information will not be available to students in our program files.

Student Name (Provide signature) 8/3/14
Date

Primary Clinical Instructor Name (Print name) 8/6/14
Date

Primary Clinical Instructor Name (Provide signature)

Entry-level PT degree earned BS in Biology
Highest degree earned Doctorate Degree area Physical Therapy
Years experience as a CI _____
Years experience as a clinician _____
Areas of expertise Treatment of orthopedic and post-surgical cases
Clinical Certification, specify area _____
APTA Credentialed CI ☐ Yes ☐ No
Other CI Credential _____ State ☐ Yes ☐ No
Professional organization memberships ☒ APTA ☐ Other _____

Additional Clinical Instructor Name (Print name) _____
Date

Additional Clinical Instructor Name (Provide signature)

Entry-level PT degree earned _____
Highest degree earned _____ Degree area _____
Years experience as a CI _____
Years experience as a clinician _____
Areas of expertise _____
Clinical Certification, specify area _____
APTA Credentialed CI ☐ Yes ☐ No
Other CI Credential _____ State ☐ Yes ☐ No
Professional organization memberships ☐ APTA ☐ Other _____

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.

- Name of Clinical Education Site Elite Rehab and Sports Therapy
Address 297 Daniel Webster Highway City Merrimack State NH
- Clinical Experience Number 1
- Specify the number of weeks for each applicable clinical experience/rotation.

<input type="checkbox"/> Acute Care/Inpatient Hospital Facility	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Practice
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ambulatory Care/Outpatient	<input type="checkbox"/> Rehabilitation/Sub-acute Rehabilitation
<input type="checkbox"/> ECF/Nursing Home/SNF	<input type="checkbox"/> School/Preschool Program
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal/State/County Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Wellness/Prevention/Fitness Program
<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial/Occupational Health Facility	<input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="text"/>

Orientation

- Did you receive information from the clinical facility prior to your arrival? ☒ Yes ☐ No
- Did the on-site orientation provide you with an awareness of the information and resources that you would need for the experience? ☒ Yes ☐ No
- What else could have been provided during the orientation? I was provided information regarding weekly schedule, work attire, and most commonly seen conditions for me to review prior to the start of clinical, which I felt was the most important information. However, they could have included the clinical site's objectives for the learning experiences.

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

- 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	1	Critical care, ICU, Acute	1
Neuromuscular	4	13-21 years	2	SNF/ECF/Sub-acute	1
Cardiopulmonary	1	22-65 years	4	Rehabilitation	4
Integumentary	1	over 65 years	4	Ambulatory/Outpatient	4
Other (GI, GU, Renal, Metabolic, Endocrine)	1			Home Health/Hospice	1
				Wellness/Fitness/Industry	1

- 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	3
• Screening	3	Prognosis	3
• History taking	3	Plan of Care	4
• Systems review	2	Interventions	4
• Tests and measures	4	Outcomes Assessment	3
Evaluation	3		

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).	2
Being involved in district, state, regional, and/or national professional activities.	3

10. What suggestions, relative to the items in question #9, could you offer to improve the environment for professional practice and growth? During my experience, neither of the PTs participated in continuing education, however they were both actively searching for classes to partake in. They also were exposed to my inservice presentation. A potential improvement could be for each PT to find an up to date peer-reviewed research article at the beginning of every month to share and broaden their knowledge on a variety of subjects.

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 _____

13. How did the clinical supervision ratio in Question #12 influence your learning experience? The 1:1 ratio was beneficial as she was able to provide 100% supervision if necessary and provided constructive criticism as she only had 1 student to observe. It allowed me to have more hands on experience too, because I did not have to share patients with other students.

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 Marketing at a couple of Chamber of Commerce events; attended a patient's orthotics appointment

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. I personally live ten minutes away from this clinic, so I did not use local resources. However, there are a number of restaurants within 5 minutes for lunch. Parking for the clinic is located behind the clinic with easy access.

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? Full knowledge of anatomy, good communication skills, general understanding of treatments regarding low back, neck, and shoulder (rotator cuff & impingement) conditions.
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. UE and spine musculoskeletal academic preparation.
19. What suggestions would you offer to future physical therapist students to improve this clinical education experience? Bring a notebook everyday to write notes and/or questions you want to ask or look up when you get home. Take advantage of every learning opportunity, including kinesiotaping, Graston technique, Mulligan MWM from Mellisa. Put in the effort to improve upon your documentation, because Mellisa thoroughly takes the time to correct every note with written corrections & suggestions.
20. What do you believe were the strengths of your physical therapist academic preparation and/or coursework for *this clinical experience*? I was thankful for my academic preparation from our anatomy, neuroanatomy, PT interventions, and MS for LE, and Prof Issues (coursework on documentation) classes. The in-class discussions, exams and practicals truly prepared me for this clinical experience.
21. What curricular suggestions do you have that would have prepared you better for *this clinical experience*? The future changes in curriculum will strengthen students' experiences, with the exposure to both LE and UE Musculoskeletal Conditions prior to clinical.

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	3
The clinical education site's objectives for this learning experience were clearly communicated.	2	3
There was an opportunity for student input into the objectives for this learning experience.	4	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.	2	4
The supervising CI was accessible when needed.	5	5
The CI clearly explained your student responsibilities.	4	4
The CI provided responsibilities that were within your scope of knowledge and skills.	4	4
The CI facilitated patient-therapist and therapist-student relationships.	5	5
Time was available with the CI to discuss patient/client management.	4	4
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.	4	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.	4	4

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 At the midterm evaluation, we both read aloud our comments and explain our reasoning for each rating. This allowed us to expand upon our comments with examples. It was nice to compare each of our ratings, and hear her impressions of my strengths & weaknesses. I found I was a lot harder on myself while rating, in comparison to Mellisa. Following the CPI review, we were able to discuss which aspects I could strengthen, and my goals for the rest of the clinical (like being able to be more independent and ask patients questions regarding the goals we had set for them for example).

Final Evaluation At the final evaluation, we followed a similar routine of reading our comments aloud and explaining our reasoning. Again our inconsistencies were largely due to my harder ratings of myself. However, I feel the amount of improvement from midterm to final on the rating scale were similar. I believe each of us thoroughly agreed with each other's comments as well.

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

Midterm Comments First off, she read through the student form we had to fill out regarding our learning styles and goals for clinical. That impressed me, because she truly took those comments into account when teaching me throughout clinical (constructive criticism, learning styles, demonstration followed by practice, etc). She also always took the time to answer questions/concerns, and to thoroughly correct my documentation, which I am very appreciative of. Mellisa also broadened my knowledge of UE and spine conditions, kinesiotaping, Graston and Mulligan's MWM techniques. She also allowed me to accompany her to Chamber of Commerce meetings and an orthotics appointment to gain exposure to marketing and other specialties respectively.

Final Comments Mellisa further contributed to my learning by allowing more independence with patient interventions and evaluations. She also took into account my comments from midterm regarding what I would like to further develop/experience, and provided opportunities in these areas.

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

Midterm Comments Mellisa was excellent in the opportunities she provided for me with and without patients.

Final Comments As I got more independent, my only suggestion would be to more consistently organize which patients the student will be independently responsible for at the beginning of each workday. This way the student can review those notes and think of possible exercise progressions for those specific patients prior to their appointment.

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.