

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 University of Massachusetts Lowell

Name of Clinical Education Site Healthsouth Rehabilitation Hospital- Concord, NH

Address 254 Pleasant Street City Concord State NH

Clinical Experience Number 2 Clinical Experience Dates June 4, 2018- July 23, 2018

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)

Date

Primary Clinical Instructor Name (Print name)

Date

Primary Clinical Instructor Name (Provide signature)

Entry-level PT degree earned Doctorate

Highest degree earned Doctorate Degree area Physical Therapy

Years experience as a CI 10

Years experience as a clinician 11

Areas of expertise Neuro

Clinical Certification, specify area none

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.

1. Name of Clinical Education Site Healthsouth Rehabilitation Hospital

Address 254 Pleasant Street

City Concord

State NH

2. Clinical Experience Number 2

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

<u> </u> Acute Care/Inpatient Hospital Facility	<u> </u> Private Practice
<u> </u> Ambulatory Care/Outpatient	<u>12</u> Rehabilitation/Sub-acute Rehabilitation
<u> </u> ECF/Nursing Home/SNF	<u> </u> School/Preschool Program
<u> </u> Federal/State/County Health	<u> </u> Wellness/Prevention/Fitness Program
<u> </u> Industrial/Occupational Health Facility	<u> </u> Other <u> </u>

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? I don't think that there was anything else needed during the orientation.

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	1	Critical care, ICU, Acute	1
Neuromuscular	4	13-21 years	2	SNF/ECF/Sub-acute	4
Cardiopulmonary	4	22-65 years	4	Rehabilitation	4
Integumentary	2	over 65 years	4	Ambulatory/Outpatient	3
Other (GI, GU, Renal, Metabolic, Endocrine)	3			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	4
• History taking	4	Plan of Care	4
• Systems review	4	Interventions	4
• Tests and measures	4	Outcomes Assessment	4
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).	3
Being involved in district, state, regional, and/or national professional activities.	1

10. What suggestions, relative to the items in question #9, could you offer to improve the environment for professional practice and growth? There were not a lot of inservices occurring while I was at my clinical but my CI stated that there are more during other times of the year.

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 OT and speech)
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? Having 1 student to 1 CI helped my learning experience. My CI was always available for questions and was always paying attention to what I was doing so she was able to provide good feedback.
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) nursing, occupational therapy, speech therapy
 - ☐ 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 shadowed occupational therapy and speech therapy treatments
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 is a parking lot on

the hospital grounds that is free. I am unsure if there is any housing available through the hospital because I commuted. There is a cafeteria in the hospital but it is not open on the weekends. The cafeteria is not free but the food is very cheap.

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? To be successful at this site you have to be flexible. There are times when patients can not see you because they are too sick or have an appt with an outside service that is at the same time as your PT appt with them. You also have to be able to adjust your treatment plan quickly. There are plenty of patients who will be able to ambulate 150' and negotiate a flight of stairs one day and you plan to do something similar the next day. However when you see them they are unable to even do a sit to stand on their own. Being patient is also very important. The nurses are working as fast as they can to get the patients ready in the morning but sometimes they are running behind and it takes up some of your time with the patient. You also have to have patience with the patients because they are in a lot of pain and have a lot going on. It sometimes takes them longer to complete a task than you think it will. This can be frustrating at times but you can't get frustrated with them because they are doing their best. Being level headed and not letting things get to you is also very important. These patients are in a lot of pain and sometimes say hurtful things or yell at you. They often don't mean what they said. You have to just take it with a grain of salt and not let it affect your treatment sessions. If you are uncomfortable working with a patient though they are very good about switching the person off of your schedule. Personal space is gone in this setting as well. You have to get close to your patients in order to assist them with transfers and also often have to assist them with toileting and hygiene tasks. It is a little overwhelming at first but you get used to it quickly.
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. There wasn't really anything that I was exposed to that was not included in previous classes. The only thing that I was not really prepared for was managing oxygen lines and IV poles while treating. That is more of a hands on issue though to get used to ambulating with a patient while holding onto them as well as the oxygen tank/line or the IV pole. I also learned transfers a lot more in depth than we went over them in labs. However, performing transfers on actual patients is a lot different than performing them on each other no matter how well we can act.
19. What suggestions would you offer to future physical therapist students to improve this clinical education experience? Make sure that you are open to learning new things and take every opportunity you can to learn new things. If you see some piece of equipment that you want to know what it feels like to use, just ask and they will have you use it as if you were a patient. Also, don't be afraid to ask to shadow other physical therapists, occupational therapists, or speech therapists. Their treatments are all very interesting and you learn a lot from them. Make sure that if your CI does a transfer or treatment technique with a patient that you ask if you can try doing it as well. Also always ask for feedback. It is only going to make you a better therapist whether the feedback is that you did well or that you need to improve.
20. What do you believe were the strengths of your physical therapist academic preparation and/or coursework for *this clinical experience*? The neuro classes that I took were definitely very helpful. I used the information that I learned in those classes for all of my patients even if they were not technically a neuro case. I also believe that labs in general were helpful for this clinical. All of the hands on techniques that we learned in lab were helpful. Neuro was definitely the most useful though. I had a lot of stroke patients during this clinical.

21. What curricular suggestions do you have that would have prepared you better for *this clinical experience*? More time in neuro labs to go over strokes and SCI treatments. I feel like we spent a lot of time on the PNF techniques which are definitely helpful along the line. However, I was in a setting where we were focussing more on getting the patients up and walking or working on teaching them how to transfer themselves. I feel like I was not as prepared as I could have been for this aspect of their care. I learned a lot of it from my CI over time and feel a lot more comfortable with it than I did at the beginning. However, I feel like if we put more emphasis on the functional aspects of CVA and SCI treatments that students will do better in this clinical setting.

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.	4	4
The clinical education site had written objectives for this learning experience.	4	4
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.	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.	4	4
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.	4	4
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.	4	4
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 She would explain her reasoning for where she rated me and I would explain my reasoning for where I rated myself. We were consistent for most of the sections but some sections were off by a little where I rated myself a little higher than she did.

Final Evaluation She explained her reasoning for where she rated me and I explained my reasoning for where I rated myself. We were pretty consistant for the most part. There were some sections where she rated me a good amount higher than I rated myself.

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

Midterm Comments She was always there if I had questions or wanted feedback on something. She would explain things to me, demonstrate them to me on the patient, and show me what she is doing as if I was the patient. It helped me realize how her body positioning helped to influence what she was trying to accomplish. She aslo had me practice different types of transfers on her to make sure that my technique was right. My CI had me come up with treatment ideas for each patient every morning and then we would go over my ideas before the start of every day. We would also discuss how the day went at the end of the day and if there was anything that could be improved. Whenever there was an evaluation she had me describe what was going on with the patient.

Final Comments Same as above.

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

Midterm Comments I don't think there is anything that my CI or other persons could have done differently to contribute to my learning.

Final Comments Same as above.

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.