UW HEALTH JOB DESCRIPTION

Physical Therapist - Clinician

Job Code: 900017  FLSA Status: Non-Exempt  Mgt. Approval: L. Palma/S. Ligon
Date: 09.2018

Department: Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation  HR Approval: M. Buenger  Date: 09.2018

JOB SUMMARY

Under the direction of the team supervisor/manager, the Physical Therapist Clinician provides physical therapy services. Patient/client evaluation, consultation, and treatment are conducted using broad guidelines, requiring a high degree of independence and innovation in decision-making.

Involving other health care team members is essential. The Clinician practices in collaboration with other members of the health care team and demonstrates respectful interactions with patients/clients, colleagues, and others. Practice incorporates and emphasizes education to patients, clients, families, and others.

Therapy is provided to patients/clients in various age groups. See Addendum for specifics.

Coverage to other areas within the Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation is provided as necessary based on patient/client demands. (This does not apply to those that work in Home Health.)

Occasional work is required on weekends and holidays.

The Clinician manages technical, environmental, and financial resources effectively. The Clinician also is involved in the supervision of clinical support staff.

Problems encountered are of a moderate level of difficulty and can usually be solved by referring to program resources, subject matter experts, and/or management. General supervision and direction will be provided. Consultation with other staff is expected regularly.

The Clinician works with a wide variety of internal and external constituents, including (but are not limited to) team members, staff and physicians inside and outside the Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation, patients, families, vendors, and insurance representatives.

As a requirement of the position, the Clinician has regular access to and knowledge of the confidential medical history of patients/clients in their care. Documentation is required and is in accordance with professional and regulatory guidelines.

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Clinical Decision Making: Evaluates and re-evaluates patients/clients using knowledge of the principles and methods of patient/client assessment and on-going reassessment to develop and modify effective assessments and treatment plans.
   - Uses available resources, including patient outcomes and past experiences, to guide patient/client assessment.
   - Using multiple sources, comprehensively assesses patient/client factors that impact treatment plan and outcome.
   - Selects appropriate assessment tests and measures to conduct patient/client assessment and re-assessment.
   - Administers tests and measures accurately, following standardized criteria if applicable. Modifies tests and measures based on patient/client needs.
   - Recognizes and incorporates precautions and contraindications for treatment.
   - Identifies impairments and their influence on patient/client performance.
   - Incorporates prioritized impairments to establish a therapy classification or therapy diagnosis that is specific to the patient/client.
   - Makes accurate predictions about patient/client outcomes.
   - With the patient/client and/or the patient/client’s family input, establishes goals that reflect anticipated outcomes.
   - Based on assessment and on-going reassessment, develops a treatment plan by selecting and modifying appropriate interventions.
   - In adherence to the profession’s Code of Ethics, uses ethical reasoning to make decisions based on objective principles and values.
   - Is accountable and takes responsibility to identify and meet the needs of the patient/client. Seeks alternate strategies and/or other resources to make sure patient/client needs are met.

2. Performance Skills: Provides treatment interventions to patients/clients that are safe, timely, effective, efficient, patient-centered, and equitable, in compliance with organizational policies and procedures.
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- Demonstrates competency in treatment skills by completing institutional and program-specific competencies and consistently meets annual requirements.
- Practices competently in accordance with professional practice standards and expectations.
- Demonstrates effective visual, tactile, and auditory skills to aid with patient/client assessment/reassessment and intervention.
- Provides effective therapeutic interventions that are patient centered.
- In accordance with patient/client need, selects treatment with consideration of resource utilization, including space, time, people and equipment.
- Identifies and provides appropriate strategies to educate patients so that environmental constraints, learning barriers, and cultural factors are addressed effectively.
- Facilitates patient/client responsibility for self-care.
- Progresses treatment interventions effectively.
- Interventions take into account behavioral, cognitive, and perceptual dysfunction and appropriate referrals to specialists are made, if needed.
- Delegates treatment to appropriate clinical staff and provides necessary supervision.

3. Interpersonal Abilities: Demonstrates respectful interactions with patients/clients, colleagues, and others.
   - Advocates on behalf of patients to appropriate individuals and is aware of common patient needs for similar patient populations.
   - Identifies cultural factors that may impact treatment and plan of care and identifies appropriate resources to meet cultural needs and maximize patient outcomes.
   - Establishes and maintains rapport with patients by recognizing others’ values and adapting interactions to build trust.
   - Works cooperatively with co-workers demonstrating respect, trust, and support.
   - Consults with or refers to other colleagues/disciplines to meet patient/client needs.
   - Incorporates critical feedback from supervisor and colleagues and works towards improving areas of weakness.

   - Participates in initiatives to improve organizational performance and actively provides feedback.
   - Proactively identifies and communicates operational issues that impact clinical practice.
   - Actively participates or provides feedback to a committee or task force that is focuses on improving clinical practice.
   - Practices in ways that ensure patient care and administrative tasks are performed timely while remaining flexible with changes in schedule.
   - Meets productivity expectations.
   - Advocates for the profession internally and externally to UW Health.
   - Written communication is timely, succinct, and meets all regulatory and hospital standards.
   - Identifies when communication is necessary and directs communication at the right time in the right place to the right person using an appropriate medium.
   - Listens actively; verbal and non-verbal communication is respectful, empathetic, and appropriate to individuals and groups.

5. Administration/Education/Outreach/Research: Participates in at least two activities that extend beyond patient care, including administration, education, outreach, and research as defined in the Practice Model Continuum for the Clinician across all themes and subthemes.
   - Utilizes resources and seeks appropriate assistance to incorporate evidence-based practice into clinical decision making.
   - Demonstrates a commitment to continued learning by attending continuing education, reviewing the literature, and seeking other resources.
   - As opportunities exist, actively participates in student clinical education.
   - Able to critically appraise journal articles or other sources of evidence.
   - Participates in at least two activities that extend beyond patient care, including administration, education, outreach, and research as defined in the Practice Model Continuum for the Clinician across all themes and subtheme
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**ALL DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS MUST BE PERFORMED CONSISTENT WITH THE UW HEALTH PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.**

### JOB REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Bachelor’s degree in Physical Therapy is required.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preferred</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work Experience</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Prior healthcare experience</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preferred</td>
<td>Home Health Agency only: One (1) year prior clinical experience</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licenses &amp; Certifications</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>• Licensure as a Physical Therapist in the State of Wisconsin is required.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preferred</td>
<td>• Certification in Healthcare Provider Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Automatic External Defibrillator is required within 3 months of hire.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Home Health Agency only:</th>
<th>• Valid Wisconsin driver’s license and current auto insurance.</th>
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<tr>
<th>Required Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities</th>
<th>• Familiarity with a variety of equipment, including computer software, is required.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Organization, time management, flexibility, and positive attitude are crucial to successful performance.</td>
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### AGE SPECIFIC COMPETENCY (Clinical jobs only)

Identify age-specific competencies for direct and indirect patient care providers who regularly assess, manage and treat patients.

**Instructions:** Indicate the age groups of patients served either by direct or indirect patient care by checking the appropriate boxes below. Next,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Infants (Birth – 11 months)</th>
<th>Adolescent (13 – 19 years)</th>
<th>Toddlers (1 – 3 years)</th>
<th>Young Adult (20 – 40 years)</th>
<th>Preschool (4 – 5 years)</th>
<th>Middle Adult (41 – 65 years)</th>
<th>School Age (6 – 12 years)</th>
<th>Older Adult (Over 65 years)</th>
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<tr>
<td>x</td>
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### JOB FUNCTIONS

Review the employee’s job description and identify each essential function that is performed differently based on the age group of the patient.

### PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Indicate the appropriate physical requirements of this job in the course of a shift.  
*Note: reasonable accommodations may be made available for individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of this position.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Demand Level</th>
<th>Occasional</th>
<th>Frequent</th>
<th>Constant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Up to 33% of the time</td>
<td>34%-66% of the time</td>
<td>67%-100% of the time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sedentary:** Ability to lift up to 10 pounds maximum and occasionally lifting and/or carrying such articles as dockets, ledgers and small tools. Although a sedentary job is defined as one, which involves sitting, a certain amount of walking and standing is often necessary in carrying out job duties. Jobs are sedentary if walking and standing are required only occasionally and other sedentary criteria are met.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Up to 10#</th>
<th>Negligible</th>
<th>Negligible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Light:** Ability to lift up to 20 pounds maximum with frequent lifting and/or carrying of objects weighing up to 10 pounds. Even though the weight lifted may only be a negligible amount, a job is in this category when it requires walking or standing to a significant degree.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Up to 20#</th>
<th>Up to 10#</th>
<th>Negligible or constant push/pull of items of negligible weight</th>
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</thead>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>or requires significant walking or standing, or requires pushing/pulling of arm/leg controls</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Medium:** Ability to lift up to 50 pounds maximum with frequent lifting and/or carrying of objects weighing up to 25 pounds.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>20-50#</th>
<th>10-25#</th>
<th>Negligible-10#</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
List any other physical requirements or bona fide occupational qualifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heavy: Ability to lift up to 100 pounds maximum with frequent lifting and/or carrying objects weighing up to 50 pounds.</th>
<th>50-100#</th>
<th>25-50#</th>
<th>10-20#</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Heavy: Ability to lift over 100 pounds with frequent lifting and/or carrying objects weighing over 50 pounds.</td>
<td>Over 100#</td>
<td>Over 50#</td>
<td>Over 20#</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- According to the US Department of Labor Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT), the strength requirement of a physical therapist is medium. Medium is defined as exerting (to lift, carry, push, pull, or otherwise move objects) 20 to 50 pounds of force occasionally (1/3 of the time), and/or 10 to 20 pounds of force frequently (2/3 of the time), and/or up to 10 pounds of force constantly. Must have the ability to bend, lift, and assist with transfers. Must have adequate physical strength to assist with resistive activities.

Additional requirements for home health agency staff only:
- Must be able to travel in a vehicle up to 110 miles per day, visiting between 1-7 homes a day, to deliver personal care to patients.
- Environmental status of patient homes and dwellings where care is delivered is variable and unpredictable.
- Must be able to climb stairs and gain access to a variety of different dwellings to deliver care, in various inclement weather conditions including snow and ice.
- Must be able to type on a laptop computer keyboard for medical record data entry associated with each patient visit and related documentation.

Note: The purpose of this document is to describe the general nature and level of work performed by personnel so classified; it is not intended to serve as an inclusive list of all responsibilities associated with this position.