

JOB DESCRIPTION: PHYSICAL THERAPIST

POSITION SUMMARY

Plans and provides physical therapy services to clients in their homes in accordance with the Plan of Care and agency policies and procedures. The Physical Therapist performs functions which require substantial specialized knowledge, judgment, and skill based upon the principles of psychological, biological, and social services and must be able to make judgments accordingly.

Reports to: Director/Clinical Supervisor/Case Manager

QUALIFICATIONS

1. Graduate of a Physical Therapy program approved by the American Physical Therapy Association, the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation of the American Medical Association, or the Council on Medical Education of the American Medical Association and the American Physical Therapy Association.
2. Current license/registration as a Physical Therapist in the state(s) in which practicing.
3. Minimum of one (1) year's experience in a health care facility. Home care experience preferred.
4. CPR certified.
5. Strong verbal and written communication skills and good interpersonal skills.
6. Knowledgeable in the principles and practices of physical therapy.
7. Current driver's license, good driving record, and reliable transportation.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS/AREAS OF ACCOUNTABILITY

1. Performs physical therapy assessments, diagnostic tests, skilled procedures, and ongoing evaluation for clients who are receiving services under a medically approved Plan of Care.
 - a. Completes assessments in a timely manner in accordance with agency policy.
 - b. Develops a therapy care plan to provide direction to other health team members involved in the plan of care. Reviews and updates per agency policy and client need.
 - c. Documents all findings, plans, interventions, and outcomes in the clinical record.
 - d. Communicates plans and changes to the physician and to the client Case Manager and other caregivers through the care plan, progress notes, and participation in care conferences.

2. Implements teaching appropriate to the client's needs and within the context of his/her environment and value system.
 - a. Assesses knowledge level of client and identifies learning needs.
 - b. Plans, teaches, supervises, and counsels regarding the client's physical therapy needs to promote improvement or recovery, symptom management disease process, and community resources.
 - c. Evaluates the effectiveness of the teaching plan and establishes care plan for others to follow in teaching the client.
 - d. Attends and actively contributes to interdisciplinary team or other required meetings.
 - e. Shares areas of expertise among and between teams. Initiates interdisciplinary referrals.

4. Assists in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the ongoing quality improvement process.
 - a. Serves on the Professional Advisory Board. Identifies therapy-related activities for quality improvement. Participates in quality improvement process.
 - b. Attends meetings as required.
 - c. Maintains confidentiality in all aspects of the job.

5. Promotes personal safety and a safe environment for clients and coworkers.
 - a. Demonstrates knowledge of safety/infection control practices by compliance with agency policies and procedures.
 - b. Recognizes and responds to potentially unsafe situations.
 - c. Demonstrates safe practice in the use of equipment.
 - d. Assesses safety of environment and takes initiative to help prevent accidents and promote safety.

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6. Supervises applicable home care team members.
 - a. Performs in-home supervision of home health aides and physical therapy assistants as directed and according to agency policy.
 - b. Evaluates employee performance and provides timely reviews as delegated.
 7. Performs other related duties and responsibilities as deemed necessary.

Supervision of Physical Therapy-Assistants

1. Instructs and supervises Physical Therapy-Assistants in certain phases of the physical therapy services they may provide to clients.
2. Available by telephone to the Physical Therapy-Assistant at all times when a Physical Therapy-Assistant is providing treatment to a client.
3. Supervises on-site while the Physical Therapy-Assistant is rendering client care, every 4 to 6 visits, minimally once every two (2) months. Supervision does not constitute treatment.
4. Completes an on-site functional assessment, review, and revision of the Plan of Care, and an assessment of utilization of community resources.

PHYSICAL/ENVIRONMENTAL DEMANDS

See ADA Requirements.

I have read and understand the above job description of the Physical Therapist.

Signed _____ Date _____

