

## **Appendix D: Physical Therapy Program**

### **Observation:**

The PT student must be able to:

- determine skin integrity and wound characteristics, and findings on radiological films, electrocardiograms and other images/diagnostic tests.
- discriminate numbers and patterns associated with diagnostic instruments and tests, such as sphygmomanometers and electrocardiograms, and use instruments/devices competently, such as stethoscope, goniometer, computer, and modalities used for evaluation and intervention.
- **discriminate movement patterns including gait, activities of daily living and transitional movements across the lifespan.**

### **Communication:**

The PT student must be able to:

- communicate rapidly and clearly with the medical team on rounds.
- elicit a thorough verbal and/or written history from patients, caregivers and/or health records.
- communicate complex findings in appropriate terms to patients and to various members of the health care and/or educational team (fellow students, physicians, nurses, aides, therapists, social workers, teachers, and others).

### **Sensory and Motor Coordination and Function:**

The PT student must be able to:

- perform a physical examination utilizing palpation, assisted patient mobility, auscultation, percussion, and other diagnostic maneuvers while maintaining a safe environment for patient and provider(s).
- employ sufficient exteroceptive sense (touch, vibration, stereognosis, pain and temperature), proprioceptive sense (kinesthesia, position sense, pressure, movement), sensory integration and perception, physical strength, fine motor coordination, and motor function.
- execute movements reasonably required to safely maneuver self or move another individual's body parts to effectively perform assessment and intervention techniques, safely and effectively guide, facilitate, inhibit, and resist movement and motor patterns, and provide general care. This will include standing and lifting.
- manipulate common evaluation and intervention equipment such as tape measures, goniometers, sphygmomanometers, debridement instruments, and computers.
- respond promptly to medical emergencies (such as the performance of cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and must not hinder the ability of co-workers to provide prompt care.
- perform these described functions with the stamina to complete them while on clinical rotations that involve a typical and reasonable length of work-day and work-week. Class schedules will mimic many clinic schedules requiring students to attend classes starting at 8 AM and continuing until 5 PM. Classes may extend into the evening based on resource availability. Clinical days may include earlier and/or later hours based on actual clinic schedules. Attendance at classes is required, just as attendance at work is required.

### **Conceptualization, Integration, and Quantification:**

The PT student must be able to:

- identify significant findings from history, physical examination, and laboratory data, provide a reasoned explanation for likely therapy, recalling and retaining information in an efficient and timely manner.
- incorporate new information from peers, teachers, and the medical literature in formulating treatment and plans.
- exercise good judgment in patient assessment, diagnostic and therapeutic treatment and plans
- identify and communicate the limits of their knowledge to others when appropriate.
- interpret graphs describing biologic relationships and other similar modes of data.
- execute all therapeutic exams and intervention procedures in a safe and effective manner.
- maintain the stamina to complete the rigorous program.