



JOB DESCRIPTION FORM

Job Title: Physical Therapist	Reports to: Home Health Supervisor
Department: Home Health	FLSA Status: Non-Exempt

Job Summary:

Reports directly to the Home Health Supervisor and responsible for providing skilled physical therapy on an intermittent basis in the patient's home and at times, for hospice patients in the acute care facility.

I. Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Provides physical therapy services in accordance with the orders of a physician and under a plan of care in a patient's home.
2. Conducts initial evaluation visit and records the health needs of the patient.
3. Initiates Plan of Care when nursing services is not involved with the case and makes revisions if and when necessary.
4. Formulates a physical therapy plan based on the evaluation and/or diagnosis.
5. Evaluates the effects of the care given and regularly re-evaluates the patient's physical therapy needs.
6. Provides services requiring substantial specialized physical therapy skill based on the physician's orders and the diagnosis. Examples of these services include, but are not limited to:
 - 6.1. Physical assessment
 - 6.2. Patient and family teaching
 - 6.3. Stroke rehabilitation
 - 6.4. Balancing techniques
 - 6.5. Ambulation with assistive devices
 - 6.6. Cardiac rehabilitation
 - 6.7. Palliative care (i.e. Range of Motion to prevent contractures)
 - 6.8. Others
7. Initiates appropriate preventive and rehabilitative procedures.
8. Counsels the patient and his/her family in meeting physical and related needs.
9. Acts as coordinator of the health care team in order to maintain the proper linkages with a continuum of care in the absence of nursing.
10. Provides summary reports to the patient's physician about the patient under care when the patient's condition changes or there are deviations from the plan of care, or at least every 60 days.
11. Makes referrals to other agencies or services.
12. Prepares clinical and progress notes on the relevant and specialized physical therapy services.
13. Participates in Clinical Record Reviews, in-service programs and staff meetings.
14. Coordinates the care of all patients in his/her caseload.
15. Makes the home health aide assignment, prepares written instructions for the aide and supervises the aide in the home in the absence of nursing services.
16. Complies with FHP Home Health Policies and Procedures Infection Control.
17. Promotes pain management techniques.

18. Performs other duties that may be assigned from time to time.

II. Experience & Specifications:

1. Graduate of Bachelor's Degree; License is required
2. Minimum of 2 years experience in providing skilled physical therapy on an intermittent basis in the patient's home and at times, for hospice patients in the acute care facility.
3. Must have the appropriate level of behavioral maturity and patience in handling patients.
4. Must have the diplomacy and tact in handling difficult and irate patients.
5. Very good interpersonal relationship skills and can work and relate well with co-employees, patients and customers.
6. Outstanding communication skills and persuasiveness, specially the ability to communicate instructions and procedures for treatments, keeping the patients and giving them the desired level of comfort and confidence.
7. Must have strong sensitivity to the needs and anxieties of patients and the ability to motivate patients to undergo treatments and/or procedures.
8. Strong ethics and a high level of personal and professional integrity.
9. Knowledgeable of federal and state laws and requirements relating to healthcare management.
10. Computer literate and very highly proficient in using MS office programs.

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job with or without accommodation.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to sit for extended hours, communicate clearly via speech, use hands to finger in repetitive motion, handle, or feel objects, tools or controls, reach with hands and arms, balance, talk, hear conversations or sounds as well as via radio or telephone. The employee must be able to occasionally sit for long hours, drive a car or travel to other locations. Specific vision abilities required by the job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus. Occasionally; the employee might be exposed to unpleasant and or stressful situations.

Work Environment:

Work environment characteristics described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is exposed to lights, office equipment such as computer monitors, faxes etc. in a clinical setting. The noise level in the work environment is usually low.