

Code: 4183

Title: PHYSICAL THERAPIST

SUMMARY: Positions within the professional level of this category are responsible for the planning and delivery of physical therapy treatments to patients in concert with the attending physician.

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES: (Work assignments may vary depending on the department's needs and will be communicated to the applicant or incumbent by the supervisor.)

Receives and interprets prescriptions and designs and directs the implementation of an appropriate exercise program;

Develops integrated and graduated treatment programs concerning such factors as energy output and concentration, equipment needed, range of motion, psychologic stimulus required and ability of patients;

Plans treatment to rehabilitate patients to the point of greatest capacity;

Administers a full range of treatments including hydrotherapy, thermotherapy and mechanical therapy;

Ensures patient records maintained completely and accurately;

Ensures that therapeutic equipment is maintained in conformance with hospital and manufacturers standards;

Analyzes, treats and documents chemical content of hydrotherapy spas;

Assists in the training and evaluation of overall staff and unit activities and recommends improvements;

Acts as liaison with attending physician;

Ensures the level of prescribed treatment is maintained;

Maintains patient, staffing and equipment records and prepares reports as required;

Assists in ensuring conformance with department and division risk management and fiscal policies, and the requirements of the Joint Commission On Hospital Accreditation (JCHA);

Maintains necessary equipment and supplies;

May supervise and participate in the development and implementation of prescribed exercise and therapeutic programs;

May assist in the preparation of the division or unit budget.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS:

Knowledge of:

- the principles, practices, and techniques involved in the provision of medical care;
- physical therapy procedures and treatments;
- rehabilitation objectives in the treatment and motivation of patients;
- the principles and practices of quality control and management;
- the operation of physical therapy equipment;
- safety procedures used in transporting and positioning patients and operating physical therapy equipment;
- basic principles and practices of supervision and training;
- English grammar, spelling and punctuation.

Skill in:

- applying physical therapy techniques;
- establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with others;
- communicating effectively, both orally and in writing;
- maintaining records;
- interpreting prescriptions, developing and implementing treatment plans;
- maintaining a safe environment for patients, staff and visitors;
- maintaining acceptable levels and quality of service.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Graduation from an accredited school of physical therapy approved by the American Physical Therapy Association.

(Any combination of training that meets the Arizona Board of Physical Therapy Examiners' requirements may substitute for the aforementioned education.)

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Licenses and Certificates: (Applicable to position) Possession of a valid, current certificate of licensure, probationary permit, or temporary permit as a physical therapist issued by the Arizona State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (ARS 32-2022). Failure to maintain required licensure and/or certification shall be grounds for termination.

Physical/Sensory Requirements: Positions within this category are routinely required to move and manipulate patients and equipment of various weights and sizes for extended periods of time.

Special Notice Items: Certain positions within this category require additional training, experience and certification. Department of Labor regulation CFR Part 1910.1030 requires notification that this category may have a high risk of exposure to blood borne pathogens. Hepatitis B vaccine will be provided. Some positions within this classification may require a current Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) Clearance Card in order to work with vulnerable adults and children at the time of application. The DPS Clearance Card may be required as a condition of continued employment. In positions requiring a DPS Clearance Card, failure to maintain a current DPS Clearance Card shall be grounds for termination.

This class specification is intended to indicate the basic nature of positions allocated to the class and examples of typical duties that may be assigned. It does not imply that all positions within the class perform all of the duties listed, nor does it necessarily list all possible duties that may be assigned.

Pima County

Revised 03/17/96
Updated 06/12/09^(gs)