PHYSICAL THERAPIST

KIND OF WORK

Advanced professional level physical therapy.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

An employee in this class directs and carries out a wide variety of physical therapy programs for residents of a state welfare institution. Work involves the application of technical skills, knowledge, specialized techniques of physical therapy gained through experience as a Physical Therapist. The employee is afforded a wide latitude for directing a physical therapy treatment program that will meet the specific needs of residents within a particular disability grouping. In this role the employee acts as a consultant to ward personnel and provides leadership to institution personnel in creating effective programs. Supervision in the form of periodic reviews of results achieved is provided by a Physical Therapist Supervisor. In the absence of the Physical Therapist Supervisor, work is performed under the professional supervision of physicians and/or medical consultants.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position may not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Plans, develops, carries out with minimum direction, a physical therapy program for residents within a welfare institution so that each patient receives appropriate and proper physical therapy treatment.

Attends team meetings as a representative of the physical therapy department and submits reports on all residents participating in his/her physical therapy group so that treatment and therapy programs are coordinated.

Assists in ordering equipment and supplies and preparing the budget data for the program so that equipment, supplies and financial support are available for the physical therapy program.

Participates in in-service training programs for treatment units and ward personnel so that the highest standards of treatment and therapy are maintained.

Reviews progress reports of subordinate personnel so that continuation, revision or curtailment of specific activities can be recommended.

Keeps charts and records so that patient progress and program effectiveness can be evaluated.
Gives all forms of physical therapy including specific modalities related to the particular diseases of the institution such as developmental and relaxation activities for the cerebral palsy patient/resident.

Performs related work as required.

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED**

Knowledge of:

- Principles and techniques of physical therapy.
- Good administrative and supervisory principles.

Ability to:

- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with other members of the staff, unit treatment teams and residents of the institution.
- Teach therapeutic techniques to both professional and nonprofessional physical therapy personnel.
- Develop treatment programs for an assigned group of residents and to evaluate the results of such programs, recommending modifications where necessary.
- Instruct through lectures, demonstrations and discussions.

Est.: 12/76  T.C.: 1/12
Rev.:  Former Title(s): Physical Therapist 2