

DIRECTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY SERVICES

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is a professional position involving responsibility for evaluating, planning and providing physical therapy treatment to residents in accordance with written prescription or referral from a physician who provides medical direction. The incumbent is responsible for the operation of the Physical Therapy Department. General supervision is received from the Nursing Home Administrator. Supervision may be exercised over the work of contract Physical Therapists, Physical Therapy Aides, and clerical employees assigned to the service. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Performs physical therapy procedures upon the written order or referral of a licensed physician and assures that the physician's orders are carried out appropriately;

Evaluates the degree of function and disability of residents' unless contradicted by professional judgement or a physician's admission notes;

Coordinates physical therapy procedures with nursing services and trains all staff;

Organizes and operates the clinical and administrative needs of the department;

Participates with other facility personnel in the formulation of residents' total care plans;

Participates in the selection of personnel in the physical therapy service, assigns their duties and provides supervision;

Develops or assists in the development of physical therapy policies and procedures;

Confers periodically with physicians, nursing personnel and support staff regarding all facets of resident care and related activities;

Provides in-service training to physical therapy, nursing staff and support staff;

Records on residents' charts all physical therapy evaluations, re-evaluations, progress notes, consultation and discharge summaries;

Assists in the development of and monitors the budget for the Physical Therapy Department;

Maintains program records, including but not limited to, the service budget and statistical reports of the frequency and types of treatment and number of residents treated;

Operates physical therapy equipment such as the parafin bath, ultrasound, hydrocolator machine and packs and positioning equipment.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good knowledge of the principles, techniques and practices of physical therapy;

Good knowledge of the operation and maintenance of apparatus and equipment used in physical therapy;

Good knowledge of pathological conditions and socio-economic factors affecting a patient's disabilities;
Working knowledge of community resources available to support or supplement the physical therapy program;
Ability to evaluate, plan and execute treatments for patients;
Ability to organize and operate the clinical and administrative needs of the department;
Ability to plan and supervise the work of others;
Ability to get along well with others;
Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing;
Ability to prepare and maintain accurate, current reports;
Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Licensed and currently registered by the New York State Education Department as a Physical Therapist.