UC Clermont College Academic Program Assessment Plan

Program: Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA)  Department: Science & Health
Completed by: Sam Coppoletti  Date: March 31, 2014

Program Description:

This two-year applied associate’s degree program is designed to give instruction in the various techniques for performing physical therapy under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist. It includes laboratory practice and a series of hands-on internships. The program is divided into two parts. The first year consists of general college and physical therapy preparatory coursework. Admittance to the second-year technical core coursework requires separate admission.

The mission of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program at the University of Cincinnati Clermont College is to educate students to become competent physical therapist assistants capable of performing the duties expected of an entry level physical therapist assistant upon graduation from the Program.

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program of University of Cincinnati Clermont College is dedicated to meeting both the needs of its students and the needs of the communities these students will ultimately serve. Students are promptly familiarized with the unique abilities, attitudes, and skills required for successful practice as a physical therapist assistant working under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist.

The Program's first responsibility is to acquaint its students with the scope and duties of the physical therapist assistant so that career choices can be made efficiently without wasting the student's time and finances or the Program's resources.

The second duty of the PTA Program is to objectively assess and admit students who possess the skills, academic development, maturity, and attitudes necessary to work ethically, legally and competently as a PTA. In order to support this duty, the faculty will foster students' cultural and social development. Leadership modeling and research are vital and have been recently added specifically to the PTA mission.

Finally, it is the obligation of the PTA Program to offer both a competent faculty and a program which together will give students the skills, attitudes, and knowledge they need to serve the vast variety of facilities which make use of the services of physical therapist assistants. Faculty development and support are represented via continuous monitoring of faculty/programmatic needs, conference attendance, and active planning within the promotion and tenure system of the college.
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Program Learning Outcomes:

At various points along the student’s academic preparation during their Math, physics, and English courses, students are introduced and assessed in the complete package of the following: Critical thinking, knowledge integration, social responsibility, effective communication, information literacy, and writing component. These are reinforced and practically applied in the courses listed below, but since the PTA curriculum is so focused and narrow in scope, the courses do not have any formal Breadth of Knowledge (BoK) components. The faculty have therefore attempted to place each of the program’s learning outcomes into each category in order to provide an annual assessment of the program’s aims. These data may be compiled further into CAPTE areas 4.2, 4.1.5 and 4.1.6.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intentional Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Where Assessed</th>
<th>Who Assesses</th>
<th>How Assessed</th>
<th>Results *</th>
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| Graduates of the PTA program will demonstrate knowledge of the role of the physical therapist assistant; the educational training required; the Code of Ethics of the American Physical Therapy Association; and the licensing & practice act of Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky; and act in a safe, ethical and legal manner. | PTA 1001  
Clinical course 2004  
And 6-8 mos. post-graduation  
PTA 2060 Seminar course  
Professional practice test from commercial supplier  
State of OH  
And 6-8 mos. post-graduation | Professor/ACCE with collaboration from Clinical Instructors | By written assignments, exams, and CPI (Clinical Performance Instrument) | Proficiency level: (Beginner-intermediate...etc. per CPI) 4/5 or 80% ratings on all graduate survey items 4/5 or 80% ratings on all graduate survey items |
| Graduates of the PTA program will demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to perform appropriate physical therapy procedures, under the supervision and guidance of the PT. | PTA 2001C, 2010C, 2020C, 2030C, 2040C, and 2050C  
PTA clinical courses 2004, 2070 and 2080  
And 6-8 mos. post-graduation | Professor/ACCE with collaboration from Clinical Instructors | By a minimum score for all students of 75% average correct in written assignments, exams, appropriate ratings on the CPI (Clinical Performance Instrument) and clinical readiness interview. | 4/5 or 80% ratings on all graduate survey items |
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<td>Graduates of the PTA program will demonstrate the ability to gather information in the patient's medical chart or records, assess a patient's basic physical and mental/emotional condition and changes in that condition, and proceed accordingly to ensure the patient's well-being and safety.</td>
<td>PTA 1001  PTA Clinical course 2004 And 6-8 mos. post-graduation</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>By a minimum score for all students of 75% average correct in written assignments, exams, and appropriate developmental rating on the CPI (Clinical Performance Instrument)</td>
<td>Proficiency level: (Beginner-intermediate...etc. per CPI) 4/5 or 80% ratings on all graduate survey items</td>
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<td>Graduates of the PTA program will demonstrate the ability to appropriately assess and/or measure critical areas found in the CAPTE and the Normative Model for PTA Education, as exemplified by, (but not limited to): gait, strength, flexibility, joint range of motion, aerobic capacity, functional activities, pain, and posture.</td>
<td>PTA 2001C, 2010C, 2020C, 2030C, 2040C, and 2050C PTA clinical courses 2004, 2070 and 2080 6-8 mos. post-graduation</td>
<td>Professor/ACCE with collaboration from Clinical Instructors</td>
<td>By a minimum score for all students of 75% average correct in written assignments, exams, and appropriate developmental rating on the CPI (Clinical Performance Instrument) and clinical readiness interview.</td>
<td>Acceptable level: clinical readiness interview.</td>
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<td>PTA 2060 Seminar course Professional practice test from commercial supplier State of OH PTA clinical courses 2004, 2070 and 2080 6-8 mos. post-graduation</td>
<td>Professor/ACCE with collaboration from Clinical Instructors</td>
<td>By written assignments, exams, and CPI (Clinical Performance Instrument)</td>
<td>Met CAPTE standard of 80% rolling 3 year average or first time pass rate of 80%. 4/5 or 80% ratings on all graduate survey items</td>
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<td>Graduates of the PTA program will complete all clinical hours and pass all criteria at an entry level within the clinical performance tool used by the program.</td>
<td>PTA clinical courses 2004, 2070 and 2080 And 6-8 mos. post-graduation</td>
<td>Professor/ACCE with collaboration from Clinical Instructors</td>
<td>By written reports and CPI (Clinical Performance Instrument)</td>
<td>4/5 or 80% ratings on all graduate survey items</td>
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**Assessment Infrastructure/Use of Findings:** The PTA Program has been nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education Programs (CAPTE) since 2011 after its temporary closure at main campus and change of sponsorship in 2009 to Clermont College.

The program reports any changes to CAPTE via an Annual Accreditation Report each Fall and also is obligated to report any significant changes and improvements to the program within a Substantive Change report in a timely manner. The program is held accountable to the benchmarks cited in the program handbook supplied by CAPTE and has created other relevant assessments to this end. Additionally, the program is subject to a Continuing Compliance Report with a site visit every six-ten years.