

Welcome to Erlanger!

Physical Therapist Assistant Student Clinical Weekly Objectives

6-8 Week Rotation

Week 1:

- Attend orientation, meet clinical instructor and clinical coordinator
- Determine work hours, days, and exchange contact information
- Tour facility
- Discuss student goals and preferred patient population, as well as preferred learning style
- Observe clinical instructor performing patient care and documentation
- Obtain EPIC access and tailor preferences
- Identify patients' lines, tubes, and drains. Compile a list of those you need to study further

Week 2:

- Continue observation of clinical instructor; begin performing physical assistance with patient care
- Begin chart review process and history gathering for caseload
- Discuss patient's performance and discharge recommendations including equipment
- Write notes for assigned patients
- Review treatment plans with clinical instructor
- Attend departmental meetings and in-services as scheduled
- Identify patients' lines, tubes, and drains and verbalize their purpose and function

Week 3:

- Carry 25% of full PTA caseload
- Prepare for mid-term evaluation
- Review personal goals and update as necessary

- Increase independence for assigned patients
- Create and distribute home exercise programs as indicated
- Observe treatment in another discipline
- Discuss patient's performance and discharge recommendations with clinical instructor, including equipment

Week 4:

- Carry ~50% of full PTA caseload
- Increase independence for assigned patients
- Increase involvement with patient/caregiver education, tailoring education to learners' learning style
- Discuss patient's performance and discharge recommendations including equipment with less prompting or assistance
- Initiate discussions with OT/SLP for co-treatment when appropriate

Week 5-6:

- Carry 50-75% of full PTA caseload
- Collaborate with clinical instructor for medically complex treatments
- Initiate discussions with other members of the patients' care team (evaluating PT, OT, case manager, etc)

Week 7-8:

- Carry >75% of full PTA caseload
- Present in-service or project as applicable or required by program
- Attend surgery observation
- Prepare for, then complete, final evaluation
- Exit interview with clinical coordinator