

Virginia Western Community College
PTH 110
Medical Reporting

Prerequisites

PTH 105 and PTA program placement

Course Description

Emphasizes the principles of medical reporting, including the ability to abstract pertinent information from actual medical records. Includes the writing of patient progress notes in standardized formats and medical terminology.

Semester Credits: 1 Lecture Hours: 1 Lab: 0

Required Materials

1. *Documentation Basics for the Physical Therapist Assistant, 3rd edition* by Mia Erickson and Rebecca McKnight; ISBN: 1630914029

Course Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students will be able to correctly:

1. Identify common disability models, including the International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF).
2. Utilize the International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF) model to outline a patient's impairments, activity, and participation limitations.
3. Identify the physical therapist assistant's responsibilities related to documentation and communication.
4. Identify the role of the electronic medical record in the provision of physical therapy services.
5. Recognize the components of effective documentation in the provision of physical therapy services.
6. Differentiate between different types of insurance providers.
7. Identify the role of reimbursement in the provision of physical therapy services.
8. Describe the importance of completing thorough, timely, ethical, and effective documentation.
9. Recognize the components of the medical record, including the physical therapy initial evaluation, progress notes, and the discharge summary.
10. Locate patient information contained in a medical record.
11. Describe the importance of documentation as a tool to communicate with the supervising PT and the interprofessional health care team.
12. Compare common documentation formats utilized within physical therapy.
13. Differentiate documentation content within each SOAP note category.
14. Recognize legal and ethical issues regarding physical therapy documentation and billing.

15. Identify common quality assurance activities utilized within physical therapy to ensure appropriate documentation and reimbursement.
16. Outline the signs of suspected cases of fraud and abuse related to the utilization of and payment for physical therapy and other health care services, including reporting responsibilities and reporting steps.
17. Identify the signs of suspected cases of abuse of vulnerable populations, including reporting responsibilities and reporting steps.
18. Compose accurate physical therapy progress notes using the principles of defensible documentation and meeting the standards of state practice acts, various practice settings, and other regulatory agencies.
19. Accurately review documentation and billing for quality assurance standards.
20. Utilize accurate medical abbreviations and terminology within course assignments.

Topical Description

This course will cover the following topics:

- Disablement models
- Physical therapy documentation
- The role of the PTA in physical therapy documentation
- Documentation formats including documentation in the electronic medical record
- Review of the full medical record, including all physical therapy documentation
- Effective documentation
- Medical terminology
- Writing notes using the SOAP format
- Reimbursement for physical therapy services
- Ethical and legal considerations of documentation
- Fraud and abuse in the healthcare system
- Documentation of suspected abuse of vulnerable patients
- Quality assurance

Notes to Instructors

- This course should follow all PTA program policies.