



BAKER COLLEGE

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

PTA 2310 Patient Assessment

3 Semester Hours

Student Learning Outcomes and Enabling Objectives

At the completion of this course, the student will be able to perform the following outcomes with a minimum competency of 77% (C+) or better overall including a 77% (C+) or better on a comprehensive lab practical:

1. Demonstrate proper patient positioning and accurate techniques for goniometric measurement of each major joint in the body.
 - a. Determine the various end-feels associated with passive range of motion prior to definitive goniometric testing
 - b. Demonstrate effective palpation of anatomical landmarks to guide goniometric measurement.
 - c. Perform accurate goniometric assessments for active and passive ROM of each major joint and document findings.
2. Demonstrate appropriate technique in performing muscle strength screening exams for each plane of movement of all major joints in the body, including observation of muscle tone.
 - a. Identify both gravity-eliminated and gravity-resisted movements in proper sequence for testing.
 - b. Identify the appropriate muscle group to test based on patient condition and document an accurate manual muscle test grade.
 - c. Differentiate between muscle strength screening, definitive manual muscle testing, and functional strength assessment
 - d. Discuss the roles that the physical therapist and physical therapist assistant perform in the strength assessment process.
 - e. Examine the clinical significance of commonly used special tests for differentiation of contractile vs. non contractile impairments.
3. Demonstrate competency with basic assessment skills of patients commonly seen in a rehabilitation center, including inspection and observation of resting posture and alignment during rest and activities.
 - a. Perform a general inspection of the patient including muscle mass, posture, skin integrity and color, respiratory status, edema, and deformity.
 - b. Perform a basic functional movement assessment for all planes of motion including gait, and recognizes level of functional status.
 - c. Document accurate and relevant anthropometric readings of height, weight, length, girth or edema for major body segments.
 - d. Recognize activities that aggravate or relieve edema, pain, dyspnea, or other symptoms.
4. Demonstrate the appropriate selection and application of muscle length assessments for various patient conditions.
 - a. Demonstrate proper positioning of muscles based on whether they cross one or multiple joints.
 - b. Describe how muscle length testing contributes to overall assessment of muscle function.

- c. Assess whether muscles are shortened or lengthened or within normal limits for the major extremity joints.
 - d. Identify the indications, precautions and contraindications to muscle length testing.
5. Communicate verbally and nonverbally with appropriate individuals when providing physical therapy interventions within the plan of care established by the physical therapist.
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Big Ideas and Essential Questions

Big Ideas

- Inspection/Observation, Posture
- Goniometry
- Manual muscle testing
- Muscle length testing
- Special Tests

Essential Questions

1. What is the purpose of goniometric assessment and when is it used?
2. How accurate and useful is manual muscle testing and when should it be applied?
3. What is the sequence of assessment and why is it important to understand?
4. Why do we observe patients at rest and with movement? What do we look for?
5. How does muscle length contribute to overall functional movement pattern and how to we assess it?

Required Elements

RE1: Lab Competencies

RE 2: The final lab practical exam patient scenario based on the plan of care established by the physical therapist

These SLOs are not approved for experiential credit, because each student must demonstrate competency in performing the skills taught in this course even if they have had previous training.

SLOs Revised by PTA Committee

Effective: Fall 2018