

## **CAPTE PTA/PT STANDARDS AND PTA/PT ASSOCIATED ELEMENTS WITH POTENTIAL INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL OBJECTIVES**

### **PTA CAPTE Standard 7: Curriculum AND PT CAPTE Standard 7: Curriculum**

The curriculum includes content, learning experiences, and student testing and evaluation processes designed to prepare students to achieve educational outcomes required for initial practice in physical therapy and for lifelong learning necessary for functioning within an everchanging health care environment.

### **CAPTE STANDARD 7 ELEMENTS:**

#### **PTA 7A: General Education Courses**

The physical therapist assistant program curriculum requires a complement of academic general education coursework appropriate to the degree offered that includes written communication and biological, physical, behavioral and social sciences which prepare students for coursework in the technical program sequence. General education courses are courses not designated as applied general education coursework by the institution or program.

#### **PT 7A: Foundational Sciences**

The physical therapist professional curriculum includes content and learning experiences in the biological, physical, behavioral and movement sciences necessary for entry level practice. Topics covered include anatomy, physiology, genetics, exercise science, biomechanics, kinesiology, neuroscience, pathology, pharmacology, diagnostic imaging, histology, nutrition, and psychosocial aspects of health and disability.

#### **IPC Objectives related to PTA General Education / PT Foundational Sciences**

- Describe the different types of microorganisms (bacteria, viruses, fungi, etc.), and their role in healthcare-associated infections.
- Describe antimicrobial resistance and its importance in healthcare associated infections.
- Identify the links (pathogen, reservoir, etc.) in the chain of infection.
- Differentiate between modes of disease transmission including airborne, bloodborne, contact, and droplet transmission.
- Describe the role the environment plays in microorganism transmission.

#### **PTA 7B: Clinical Sciences**

The physical therapist assistant program curriculum includes content and learning experiences about the cardiovascular, endocrine and metabolic, gastrointestinal, genital and reproductive, hematologic, hepatic and biliary, immune, integumentary, lymphatic, musculoskeletal, nervous, respiratory, and renal and urologic systems; and the medical and surgical conditions across the lifespan commonly seen by physical therapist assistants.

## **PT 7C: Clinical Sciences**

The physical therapist professional curriculum includes content and learning experiences about the cardiovascular, endocrine and metabolic, gastrointestinal, genital and reproductive, hematologic, hepatic and biliary, immune, integumentary, lymphatic, musculoskeletal, nervous, respiratory, and renal and urologic systems; system interactions; differential diagnosis; and the medical and surgical conditions across the lifespan commonly seen in physical therapy practice.

## **IPC Objectives Associated related to PTA 7B: Clinical Sciences / PT 7C: Clinical Sciences**

- Describe and apply principles of asepsis (e.g., sterile vs. non-sterile procedures).
- Distinguish between clean, disinfected and sterile patient care items.
- Describe the difference between products that clean and disinfect.
- Describe appropriate hand hygiene before contact with a patient, before performing an aseptic task (e.g., wound debridement), after contact with the patient or objects in the immediate vicinity of the patient, after contact with blood, body fluids or contaminated surfaces, and after removal of personal protective equipment (PPE).

## **STANDARD 7D: Practice Expectations**

### **PTA- 7D19:**

Monitor and adjust interventions in the plan of care in response to patient/client status and clinical indications

### **PT- 7D28:**

Manage the delivery of the plan of care that is consistent with professional obligations, interprofessional collaborations, and administrative policies and procedures of the practice environment

### **Potential IPC Objective for PTA – 7D19**

- As directed by the physical therapist, adjust interventions in the plan of care necessitated due to infection.

### **Potential IPC Objective for PT-7D28**

- Implement changes to the plan of care, necessitated by a change in patient status due to infection, that considers interprofessional engagement and setting specific policies and procedures.

## **PT: 7D: Practice Expectations**

**PTA 7D27:** Contribute to efforts to increase patient and healthcare provider safety

**PT 7D37:** Assess/document safety risks of patient and provider; design/implement strategies to improve safety in the healthcare setting as an individual and as a member of the interprofessional healthcare team

### **Potential IPC Objectives related to PTA 7D27 and PT 7D37:**

- Discuss therapist role in infection prevention and control (e.g., recognizing unsafe activities, intervening when breaches in infection control are identified).
- Describe practice changes (e.g., altered standard of care) in the event of limited resources.

- Describe how a staff member with an infectious condition can pose a risk to other healthcare worker, patients, and visitors

**PT-7D34: Address primary, secondary, tertiary prevention, health promotion, and wellness to individuals, groups, and communities**

- Provide physical therapy services that address primary, secondary and tertiary prevention, health promotion, and wellness to individuals, groups, and communities.

**Potential IPC Objectives related to PT-7D34:**

- Describe work practices that reduce the risk of infection transmission (e.g., immunization, not coming to work sick, hand hygiene).
- Describe signs, symptoms and diagnoses that require absence from work or work restrictions (e.g., fever with cough, fever with skin rash/lesion, fever with other respiratory symptoms, gastrointestinal symptoms).
- Explain the importance of healthcare worker participation in immunization programs.