

Client Assessment, Diagnosis, Interventions

Standard

The physiotherapist demonstrates **proficiency** in client assessment, diagnosis, and **interventions** to deliver **quality** client-centered services.

Expected outcome

Clients can expect the physiotherapist to select appropriate assessment tools, make an informed physiotherapy diagnosis, and apply intervention procedures that are carried out proficiently for quality delivery of **physiotherapy services**.

Performance expectations

The physiotherapist:

- Obtains clients' ongoing **informed consent** to proposed services.
- Applies appropriate assessment procedures to evaluate clients' health status using **standardized measures** as available.
- Uses critical thinking and professional judgment to interpret the assessment findings and determine a physiotherapy diagnosis.
- Collaborates with clients, and develops realistic intervention plans to address clients' needs and goals.
- Applies intervention procedures safely and effectively.
- Assigns appropriate tasks to **supervisees** with clients' consent.
- Re-evaluates and monitors clients' responses throughout the course of interventions, making adjustments and discontinuing services that are no longer required or effective.
- Makes appropriate referrals when clients' needs are best addressed in collaboration with/or by another provider.
- Collaborates with clients and other providers as appropriate to plan and implement discharge plans.
- Provides client education to enable and optimize clients' transition to self-management.
- Promotes continuity in service by collaborating and facilitating clients' transition from one health sector or provider to another.

- Delivers only services that are clinically indicated for clients and that he/she is competently able to provide.
- Advocates within her/his capabilities and context of practice for clients to obtain the resources they require to meet their health goals.

Clients are recipients of physiotherapy services, and may be individuals, families, groups, organizations, communities, or populations. An individual client may also be referred to as a patient. In some circumstances, clients/patients may be represented by their substitute decision-makers.

Informed consent refers to "receiving client or their legally authorized representative's permission to proceed with an agreed course of physiotherapy service. Consent may be revoked at any time...Consent can be written or oral, and may be expressed or implied. Having a written consent form does not mean there is informed consent. Informed consent involves ongoing communication between the parties involved."

Interventions refer to physiotherapy services that "include but are not limited to education and consultation, therapeutic exercise, soft tissue and manual therapy techniques including manipulation, electro-physical agents and mechanical modalities, functional activity training, cardio-respiratory and neuromotor techniques, and prescribing aids and devices."

Physiotherapy services are "services provided by or under the direction of a physiotherapist. This includes client assessment and intervention, and related communication with and reporting to various parties for the purposes of delivering patient care."

Proficiency means performance consistent with the established standards in the profession.

Quality of health-care services refers to the "acceptability, accessibility, appropriateness, effectiveness, efficiency, and safety" of the services provided.

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Standardized measures refers to “measurement tools that are designed for a specific purpose in a given population. Information is provided regarding the administration, scoring, interpretation, and psychometric properties for each measure.”

Supervisees refers to students, assistants, and other support personnel.

Related Standards

- Client-Centered Care
- Collaborative Practice
- Competence
- Consent
- Documentation and Record Keeping
- Evidence-Informed Practice
- Supervision