Physical Therapy Exam Content Outline

Exam Objective: To measure overall level of clinical knowledge in the area of Physical Therapy

Knowledge Domains
Physical Therapy Exam

- 59% Provision of Care
- 25% Identification of Therapeutic/Treatment Modalities
- 7% Documentation
- 7% Environment/Safety

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I. Diagnostics
   A. Knowledge of diagnostic imaging of all body systems.
   B. Knowledge of medical management (e.g., surgical procedures, medical tests) for all body systems.
   C. Knowledge of appropriate tests, measures and their applications for all body systems.

II. Documentation
   A. Knowledge of standards of documentation.
   B. Knowledge of documenting assessments, evaluations, and treatments as required by scope of practice and industry standards.

III. Environment/Safety
   A. Knowledge of physiological response to environmental factors and characteristics.
   B. Knowledge of factors influencing patient/client safety.
   C. Knowledge of proper body mechanics and injury prevention.

IV. Identification of Therapeutic/Treatment Modalities
   A. Knowledge of diseases/conditions related to multiple systems in order to make effective treatment decisions.
   B. Knowledge of indications, contraindications, and precautions of therapeutic modalities.
C. Knowledge of assistive and adaptive devices (e.g., types, use, influencing factors), including but not limited to:

1. Prosthetic devices
2. Orthotic devices
3. Protective devices
4. Supportive devices
5. Bariatric devices
6. Gravity-assisted devices

D. Knowledge of wound management techniques including but not limited to:

1. Debridement
2. Nonselective debridement
3. Dressings
4. Topical agents

V. Provision of Care

A. Knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of all body systems.

B. Knowledge of physiological response of all body systems.

C. Knowledge of normal interrelationships among multiple body systems.

D. Knowledge of pathologies/conditions and their affects on different body systems.

E. Knowledge of differential diagnoses related to pathologies affecting multiple body systems.
F. Knowledge of diseases or conditions of multiple body systems and medical management.

G. Knowledge of the impact of co-morbidities and co-existing conditions on patient/client management.

H. Knowledge of pharmacology as related to body systems.

I. Knowledge of psychological and psychiatric conditions that impact patient/client management.

J. Knowledge of movement analysis, kinesiology/kinematics as related to body systems.

K. Knowledge of motor control, motor learning, and lifespan development as related to body systems.

L. Knowledge of the effects of activity and exercise on body systems.