

INTRODUCTION TO THE ADVANCED COMPETENCY IN HOME HEALTH PROGRAM

AN ADVANCED PROGRAM FOR PHYSICAL THERAPISTS



WHY IS A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FOR HOME HEALTH NEEDED?

Home care practice is unique and training in clinic-based practices does not always translate readily to physical therapy practice in patients' homes.

Students and new therapists often receive limited exposure to this practice setting and many report they feel unprepared for it.

Agency-based home care practice has unique regulatory and payment environments, which many physical therapists are not sufficiently exposed to until they work in home health. Agencies are not always equipped to provide the in-depth orientation and training physical therapists need for this setting.



PROGRAM GOALS

Improve physical therapist practice in the home health industry by providing evidence-based practice principles to promote best practice.

Recognize physical therapists for successful completion of written and practical testing in a rigorous home health education program.



CERTIFICATE VS. CREDENTIAL

Do you know what all of these initials mean? Do your patients?

Ex: José Smith, PT, DPT, PhD, GCS, OCS, GTC, CEEAA, COS-C, CCRT, MBA, MHA, FAPTA

Physical therapists who successfully complete the Advanced Competency in Home Health program will be recognized with a *certificate of achievement*.

Why not a credential for this program?

- Credentials aren't typically meaningful to clients/patients
- Credentials are often not meaningful to other professionals
- Credentials may not even be meaningful to your peers
- Certification credentials and acronyms are no longer consistent with APTA standards per House of Delegates RC 4-16: Appropriate Use of Designations¹
 - Common honors and certifications should be spelled out¹

List your accomplishment in this program as:

“Certificate in Advanced Competency in Home Health”

¹American Physical Therapy Association 2016 House of Delegates, Appropriate Use of Designations (RC 4-16)

<http://www.apta.org/Designations/>. Accessed Sept. 20, 2017.



PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Participants must successfully complete the following within a 24-month period:

- ✓ **5 core online modules (20 hours total). These courses include the following titles; those with an * are prerequisites for the weekend face-to-face course:**
 1. Home Health Clinical Assessment [5 hours]*
 2. Medications & Pharmacology for the Home Health Therapist [5 hours]*
 3. Home Health Regulation & Documentation [3 hours]*
 4. Balance & Falls: Factors, Measurements, and Interventions for Home Health [5 hours]*
 5. Ethical Considerations for Physical Therapists Practicing in the Home Health Setting [2 hours]
- ✓ **Participate in a weekend face-to-face course in which you will demonstrate skills (15 hours).**
- ✓ **4 hours minimum of online elective courses. You can choose from a variety of topics to match your interest or needs. More electives for this program will be added over time.**

Except for the pre-requisites for the face-to-face weekend course, you may complete the requirements above in any order within 24 months.



WHAT DOES THE PROGRAM COST?

Home Health Section member = **\$994**

APTA member who is not a Home Health Section member = **\$1,200**

Non-member = **\$1,690**

Psst!

Annual membership in the Home Health Section is only \$45. You can do that math in your head.

Join the Section
and SAVE!

Home Health Section Annual Dues:

PTs = \$45

PTAs = \$35

Students: \$15



HOW DO I SIGN UP?

All of the online courses for the Advanced Competency in Home Health program are offered through [APTA's Learning Center](#).

- 5 Core Courses are bundled at a discount. Register for all at once or register for them individually.
- Electives are offered à la carte.

Weekend face-to-face Advanced Competency in Home Health course is offered two different ways:

- Pre-conference course at [APTA Combined Sections Meeting \(CSM\)](#). Register through APTA.
- Stand alone course sponsored by the Home Health Section. Register through the [Home Health Section's website](#).

We track your progress. You register for the courses.

RECOGNITION

- Certificate of Achievement
- Advanced Competency in Home Health lapel pin
- Recognition at the Home Health Section annual meeting (Combined Sections Meeting)
- Recognition in the Home Health Section publication
- Self confidence!



Yahoo!



WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION

www.homehealthsection.org

Select “Advanced Competency” from the Education drop-down menu on our website



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