

Florida SCCEs' Perceptions of Physical Therapy Clinical Education

Start of Block: Characteristics of the SCCE, Site, and Staff

Q1.1 Thank you for agreeing to participate in this 15-minute questionnaire administered in collaboration with the FPTA's Clinical Education Task Force.

Your answers will assist the task force in developing a unified approach to clinical education for DPT and PTA students. The task force's goal is to improve clinical education quality while decreasing the burden on clinical sites. This questionnaire will assess the impact that COVID-19 has had on Florida PT and PTA clinical education. The questionnaire will also seek your perceptions of clinical education.

There are no foreseen risks that will result from participating in this questionnaire. The questionnaire will not collect any personal identifiable information, and no attempts will be made to determine your identity. Your participation is voluntary, and by completing the questionnaire, you are giving your implied informed consent.

Any questions or concerns that you have can be directed to Stephanie Svoboda, DPT, MS, OCS at ssvoboda@fiu.edu

Thank you for your participation!

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Q1.2 Please note the following terminology.

Site Coordinator of Clinical Education (SCCE)- A professional who administers, manages, and coordinates clinical assignments and learning activities for students during their clinical education experience.

(formerly referred to as Center Coordinator of Clinical Education (CCCE))

Clinical Experience- refers to full-time experience in which a student is engaged for a minimum of 35 hours per week and supervised by a Clinical Instructor

(formerly referred to as internship)

Academic Institution- University or college through which an academic degree is granted.

Clinical Education Site (Site)- A health service delivery agency or other setting in which clinical education experiences are provided for physical therapist or physical therapist assistant students

Additional definitions can be found here: https://acapt.org/docs/default-source/pdfs/common-terminology-glossary-for-physical-therapist-clinical-education.pdf?sfvrsn=25978bd8_2

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Q1.3 Gender

- ☐ Male (1)
- ☐ Female (2)
- ☐ Other (3)
-

Q1.4 In which FPTA district are you located?

- ☐ East Central (1)
- ☐ Northern (2)
- ☐ Northwest (3)
- ☐ Southeast (4)
- ☐ Southwest (5)
- ☐ West Central (6)
-

Q1.5 Which best describes you?

- ☐ Physical Therapist (1)
- ☐ Physical Therapist Assistant (2)
- ☐ Other. Please specify. (3) _____
-

Display This Question:

If Which best describes you? = Physical Therapist



Q1.6 How many years have you been a physical therapist?

Display This Question:

If Which best describes you? = Physical Therapist Assistant



Q1.7 How many years have you been a physical therapist assistant?



Q1.8 How many years have you served as the Site Coordinator of Clinical Education (SCCE) for your current employer?

Q1.9 Do you coordinate student clinical education programs for other disciplines?

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

Display This Question:

If Do you coordinate student clinical education programs for other disciplines? = Yes

Q1.10 In addition to physical therapy, what other student programs do you coordinate? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Occupational Therapy (1)
 - ☐ Speech-Language Pathology (2)
 - ☐ Recreational Therapy (3)
 - ☐ Behavioral Therapy (4)
 - ☐ Nursing (5)
 - ☐ Medical Students (6)
 - ☐ Other. Please specify. (7)
-

Q1.11 Are you the SCCE for more than one location?

- ☐ No, just one location. (1)
- ☐ Yes (2)

Display This Question:

If Are you the SCCE for more than one location? = Yes



Q1.12 How many locations do you oversee as the SCCE?

Q1.13 In addition to your role as SCCE, do you serve as a clinical instructor for students?

- ☐ Yes (1)
- ☐ No (2)
- ☐ I serve as the CI for students when their regular CI is not working. (3)
-

Q1.14 Which best describes the site(s) where you serve as the SCCE? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Acute Care/Inpatient Hospital (1)
- ☐ Acute Inpatient Rehabilitation (2)
- ☐ Ambulatory Care/Outpatient Hospital (3)
- ☐ Skilled Nursing Facility (4)
- ☐ Outpatient Private Practice (5)
- ☐ Corporate Outpatient Centers (ex: CORA, Select) (6)
- ☐ Federal/State/County Health (7)
- ☐ Home Health Care (8)
- ☐ School System (9)
- ☐ Wellness/Prevention Program (10)
- ☐ Other. Please specify. (11)
-

Q1.15 Which patient populations do you work with at your site(s)? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Birth- 12 years old (1)
- ☐ 13-21 years old (2)
- ☐ 22-45 years old (3)
- ☐ 46-65 years old (4)
- ☐ 66-85 years old (5)
- ☐ 86 years old or greater (6)



Q1.16 How many **physical therapists** are on your team? (combined throughout all sites)



Q1.17 How many **physical therapists** on your team serve as clinical instructors? (combined throughout all sites)

Q1.18 Is it mandatory for **physical therapists** to be clinical instructors at your site(s)?

- ☐ Yes, all physical therapists must be clinical instructors. (1)
- ☐ Physical Therapists of a higher rank must be clinical instructors. (2)
- ☐ It is not mandatory, but it is recommended for promotion to a higher rank within our company. (3)
- ☐ No (4)
-

Q1.19 At your site(s), what makes a **physical therapist** eligible to serve as a clinical instructor? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Years of experience as a physical therapist (1)
- ☐ Years of experience within our company (2)
- ☐ Willingness to be a clinical instructor (3)
- ☐ Rank within the company (4)
- ☐ APTA Credentialed Clinical Instructor (5)
- ☐ There is no specific requirement. (6)
- ☐ Other. Please specify. (7)
-



Q1.20 How many **physical therapist assistants** are on your team? (combined throughout all sites)

Skip To: Q1.24 If Condition: How many physical therapist... Is Equal to 0. Skip To: Do you have time allotted in your wor...



Q1.21 How many physical therapist assistants on your team serve as clinical instructors?
(combined throughout all sites)

Q1.22 Is it mandatory for **physical therapist assistants** to be clinical instructors at your site(s)?

- ☐ Yes, all physical therapist assistants must be clinical instructors. (1)
 - ☐ Physical therapist assistants of a higher rank must be clinical instructors. (2)
 - ☐ It is not mandatory, but it is recommended for promotion to a higher rank within our company. (3)
 - ☐ No (4)
-

Q1.23 At your site(s), what makes a **physical therapist assistant** eligible to serve as a clinical instructor? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Years of experience as a physical therapist assistant (1)
 - ☐ Years of experience within our company (2)
 - ☐ Willingness to be a clinical instructor (3)
 - ☐ Rank within the company (4)
 - ☐ APTA Credentialed Clinical Instructor (5)
 - ☐ There is no specific requirement. (6)
 - ☐ Other. Please specify. (7)
-

Q1.24 Do you have time allotted in your workweek by your employer to work on SCCE responsibilities? (including but not limited to: administrative tasks such as answering emails, mentoring clinical instructors, working directly with students)

- ☐ Yes, I have time set aside each week to fulfill my SCCE duties. (1)
- ☐ I am permitted to work on SCCE duties during downtime (example: if a patient cancels). (2)
- ☐ No, I work on my SCCE duties outside of work hours. (3)
- ☐ I work on my SCCE responsibilities during downtime at work and outside of work hours. (4)

Display This Question:

If Do you have time allotted in your workweek by your employer to work on SCCE responsibilities? (in... != No, I work on my SCCE duties outside of work hours.



Q1.25 How many hours of your workweek are dedicated to SCCE responsibilities?

Q1.26 Are you compensated financially by your employer for serving as the SCCE?

☐ Yes, it is part of my job description, and I am paid accordingly. (1)

☐ Yes, I receive a monetary bonus for my duties as SCCE. (2)

☐ No, it is a volunteer position. (3)

☐ Other. Please specify. (4) _____

Q1.27 What do you believe your role as the SCCE **should be**? Select all that apply.

☐ Administrative (examples: answering emails, helping facilitate contracts, checking compliance) (1)

☐ Communicate with academic institutions (2)

☐ Determine readiness of persons to serve as clinical instructors for students (3)

☐ Training clinical instructors (4)

☐ Supervises clinical instructors (5)

☐ Serving as a clinical instructor (6)

☐ Designing and delivering learning activities for students (7)

☐ Other. Please specify. (8) _____

Q1.28 What do you believe your role as the SCCE **actually is**? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Administrative (examples: answering emails, helping facilitate contracts, checking compliance) (1)
 - ☐ Communicate with academic institutions (2)
 - ☐ Determine readiness of persons to serve as clinical instructors for students (3)
 - ☐ Training clinical instructors (4)
 - ☐ Supervises clinical instructors (5)
 - ☐ Serving as a clinical instructor (6)
 - ☐ Designing and delivering learning activities for students (7)
 - ☐ Other. Please specify. (8)
-

End of Block: Characteristics of the SCCE, Site, and Staff

Start of Block: Students at the Site

Q2.1 Where do you accept students from? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Florida DPT schools (1)
- ☐ Out-of-state DPT schools (2)
- ☐ Florida PTA schools (3)
- ☐ Out-of-state PTA schools (4)

Display This Question:

If Where do you accept students from? Select all that apply. = Florida DPT schools

Or Where do you accept students from? Select all that apply. = Out-of-state DPT schools



Q2.2 How many **DPT** academic institutions does your site(s) accept students from for clinical experiences?

Display This Question:

If Where do you accept students from? Select all that apply. = Florida PTA schools

Or Where do you accept students from? Select all that apply. = Out-of-state PTA schools



Q2.3 How many **PTA** academic institutions does your site(s) accept students from for clinical experiences?

Q2.4 Which clinical experience do you accept students for at your site(s)? Select all that apply.

- ☐ DPT Beginning Clinical Experiences (1)
 - ☐ DPT Intermediate Clinical Experiences (2)
 - ☐ DPT Terminal Clinical Experiences (3)
 - ☐ PTA Beginning Clinical Experiences (4)
 - ☐ PTA Intermediate Clinical Experiences (5)
 - ☐ PTA Terminal Clinical Experiences (6)
-

Q2.5 How do you determine the number of students that your site(s) accept(s) for clinical experiences each year? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Management determines the number of clinical experiences throughout our organization. (1)
 - ☐ It depends on the number of clinical instructors that sign up. (2)
 - ☐ Other. Please specify. (3)
-



Q2.6 What do you believe would be the optimal number of weeks for a **DPT** clinical experience at your site(s)?



Q2.7 What do you believe would be the optimal number of weeks for a **PTA** clinical experience at your site(s)?

Q2.8 Rate the level of past students' preparation by the academic institution for clinical experience at your site(s) .

- ☐ Extremely prepared (1)
- ☐ Somewhat prepared (2)
- ☐ Neither adequately nor inadequately prepared (3)
- ☐ Somewhat unprepared (4)
- ☐ Extremely unprepared (5)
- ☐ The level of student preparation depends on her/his academic institution. (6)

Q2.9 How can academic institutions better prepare students to be successful during their clinical experience at your site(s)?

- ☐ Additional training on professional behavior (1)
- ☐ Additional training on hands-on task specific to my setting (2)
- ☐ Additional training on chart reviews (3)
- ☐ Additional training on note writing (4)
- ☐ There is nothing that academic institutions can do to prepare students. I feel that the students are already prepared. (5)
- ☐ Other. Please specify. (6) _____

Q2.10 What do you perceive as **advantages** to accepting **DPT** students at your site(s)? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Increased clinician productivity (1)
 - ☐ Students help the licensed PT/PTAs stay current on new evidence or techniques. (2)
 - ☐ Recruitment for future employees (3)
 - ☐ There are no advantages to accepting DPT students at our site(s). (4)
 - ☐ Other. Please specify. (5)
-

Q2.11 What do you perceive as **disadvantages** for accepting **DPT** students at your site(s)? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Decreases clinician productivity (1)
 - ☐ Students utilize resources (PPE) (2)
 - ☐ Students utilize physical space (3)
 - ☐ Clinicians do not have any downtime. (4)
 - ☐ Increased administrative costs (5)
 - ☐ There are no disadvantages to accepting DPT students at our site(s). (6)
 - ☐ Other. Please specify. (7)
-

Q2.12 What do you perceive as **advantages** to accepting **PTA** students at your site(s)? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Increased clinician productivity (1)
 - ☐ Students help the licensed PT/PTAs stay current on new evidence or techniques. (2)
 - ☐ Recruitment for future employees (3)
 - ☐ There are no advantages to accepting PTA students at our site(s). (4)
 - ☐ Other. Please specify. (5)
-

Q2.13 What do you perceive as **disadvantages** for accepting **PTA** students at your site(s)? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Decreases clinician productivity (1)
 - ☐ Students utilize resources (PPE) (2)
 - ☐ Students utilize physical space (3)
 - ☐ Clinicians do not have any downtime. (4)
 - ☐ Increased administrative costs (5)
 - ☐ There are no disadvantages to accepting PTA students at our site(s). (6)
 - ☐ Other. Please specify. (7)
-

End of Block: Students at the Site

Start of Block: Clinical Education and COVID-19



Q3.1 In 2019 (prior to COVID-19), how many **DPT** students did your site(s) host per year?
(Please combine all locations.)



Q3.2 In January- March 2020 (just prior to the onset of COVID-19 in the US), how many **DPT** students did your site(s) host? (Please combine all locations.)



Q3.3 During April 2020-December 2020 (during COVID-19), approximately how many DPT students do you expect to host at your site(s)? (Please combine all locations.)



Q3.4 In 2021, how many **DPT** students do you expect to host at your site(s)? (Please combine all locations.)



Q3.5 In 2019 (prior to COVID-19), how many **PTA** students did your site(s) host per year? (Please combine all locations.)



Q3.6 In January- March 2020 (just prior to the onset of COVID-19 in the US), how many **PTA** students did your site(s) host? (Please combine all locations.)



Q3.7 During April 2020-December 2020 (during COVID-19), approximately how many **PTA** students do you expect to host at your site(s)? (Please combine all locations.)



Q3.8 In 2021, how many **PTA** students do you expect to host at your site(s)? (Please combine all locations.)

Q3.9 What are the limiting factors regarding COVID-19 and your ability to offer clinical experiences? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Management has placed our student program on hold. (1)
 - ☐ Limited supply of PPE (2)
 - ☐ Constraints of adhering to social distancing guidelines (3)
 - ☐ Changes in patient census (4)
 - ☐ Changes in the number of clinical instructors available (either due to less CIs or decreases in CIs' hours) (5)
 - ☐ There are no limiting factors. (6)
 - ☐ Other. Please specify. (7)
-

Q3.10 What can academic institutions do to enhance the possibility of your site(s) offering clinical experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Provide students with PPE (masks, gowns, gloves, etc.) (1)
 - ☐ Decrease the length of clinical experiences (2)
 - ☐ Assure that students are knowledgeable about the basics of COVID-19 prevention (3)
 - ☐ There is nothing that the academic institutions can do help us host students at this time. (4)
 - ☐ Other. Please specify. (5)
-

Q3.11 What can academic institutions do to enhance the possibility of your site(s) offering clinical experiences regardless of COVID-19? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Decrease the length of clinical experiences (1)
 - ☐ Provide additional training in teaching and mentoring to our clinicians (2)
 - ☐ Provide clinical instructors with in-services that earn continuing education units (CEUs/CEHs) (3)
 - ☐ University/College electronic library access (4)
 - ☐ Invitations for clinical instructors to be a guest lecturer at academic institution (5)
 - ☐ Financial compensation to the site (6)
 - ☐ Financial compensation to the clinical instructor (7)
 - ☐ Ability for clinical instructors to collaborate on research projects (8)
 - ☐ Vouchers for University/College credits (9)
 - ☐ Recognition of clinical instructors contributions from the University/College level (ex: annual CI awards from academic institutions) (10)
 - ☐ There is nothing that the academic institutions can do help us host students. (11)
 - ☐ Other. Please specify. (12)
-

Q3.12 Please provide any additional information you would like us to take back to the FPTA Clinical Education Task Force.

End of Block: Clinical Education and COVID-19
