

CERTIFIED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT 2

KIND OF WORK

Paraprofessional occupational therapy work.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Under immediate supervision, assists in assessment of patient/resident functioning levels and designs and implements occupational therapy programs to provide sensory stimulation experiences, recreational activities and/or develop vocational/prevocational and basic living skills; performs related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position may not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Implements occupational therapy treatment plans designed to improve functional skill levels of patients/residents by conducting individual and group activities (oral-muscular facilitation, social skills, fine and gross motor activities, sensory stimulation, recreation, and so on).

Conducts in-service training for new employees, living unit and day program staff, students and interns on occupational therapy modalities and techniques, data collection, data measurement and use of adaptive equipment to improve the competency of staff in program implementation through instruction, demonstration and evaluation.

Defines occupational therapy goals and designs treatment plans for approval by the therapist or interdisciplinary team based on assessment of patient/resident functioning levels established through testing and observation of demonstrated skills.

Determines need for changes in occupational therapy treatment plans for approval of the therapist or interdisciplinary team to improve functional skill levels by observing and documenting patient/resident progress.

Directs occupational therapy activities conducted by paraprofessional staff assigned to the classroom, household or program area so that therapy services are delivered properly through instruction, demonstration, observation and evaluation.

Maintains program facilities and equipment so that work areas are safe, adequately stocked and sanitary by checking and ordering supplies and equipment, cleaning tools and equipment and storing activity materials.

Compiles and evaluates data of patients/residents' progress to develop an information base for use in treatment program planning by observation and charting attendance and participation in activities.

Modifies patient/resident equipment to improve mobility and increase comfort by adapting equipment, such as wheelchairs, or by designing and constructing adaptive devices and materials such as silverware and ambulatory and support devices.

Feeds, bathes and grooms patients/residents - or supervises them in these activities - to ensure their health and well-being.

Provides health care to patients/residents so that response to treatment is not impeded by physical illness through administration of medications/ treatments, taking and monitoring vital signs, intervening when patient behavior is threatening to others or himself/herself.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Occupational therapy techniques and procedures sufficient to design and implement sensory and manual dexterity goals and programs to alleviate physical/mental handicaps, develop or improve functional skill levels and to design and conduct individual and group activities.

Human development and physical disabilities sufficient to complete patient/resident assessments, develop programs and adapt activities to meet individual needs and limitations.

The rules, regulations, policies and practices governing delivery of occupational therapy sufficient to protect the rights and safety of patients/residents.

Occupational therapy equipment and materials sufficient to construct or adapt therapy equipment and select effective activity devices and materials.

The client groups (mentally ill, mentally retarded, chemically dependent, geriatric and so on) sufficient to design appropriate goals and/or programs and activities.

Medications and their side effects sufficient to understand their impact on functional capabilities of patients/residents.

Transfer techniques sufficient to safely lift, move and position patients/residents.

Ability to:

Construct/modify equipment to meet the special needs of patients/residents or to prevent physical deterioration.

Train and direct staff and students in the use of adaptive equipment and implementation of occupational therapy goals through activities.

Communicate with patient/resident so that they respond to therapy and participate in activities.

Provide and/or supervise patients/residents in performing activities of daily living by tube feeding, attaching adaptive feeding equipment, escorting to and monitoring activities in mealtime routines; by using specialized bathing tables, tubs and bath solutions.

Administer oral medications and health care treatments (such as soaks, topical creams and ointments).

LEGAL OR LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS (These must be met by all employees prior to attaining permanent status in the class.)

Completion of a two year college or vocational school program and certification as a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant.

SPECIAL WORK CONDITIONS

Jobs in this class may require the employee to regularly lift, transfer and position patients/residents. In addition, the employee may be subject to unpredictable and hazardous patient/resident behaviors.

Est.: 11/83
Rev.:

TC: 4/84
Former Title: Institution Occupational Therapy Assistant 2