

NEUROLOGY SECTION: COURSE DESCRIPTIONS AND FACILITY REQUIREMENTS

The following are two-day courses provided by the Neurology Section of APTA:

I. Neurologic Practice Essentials: A Measurement Toolbox

Course Content Coordinator: Jane Sullivan, PT, MS, DHS

Course Developers: Bill Andrews, PT, MS, EdD, NCS; Richard Bohannon, DPT, EdD, NCS, FAPTA, FAHA; George D Fulk, PT, PhD; Desiree Lanzino, PT, PhD; Aimee E Perron, PT, DPT, NCS; Kirsten Potter, PT, DPT, MS, NCS; Peggy Roller, PT, MS, DPT; Yasser Salem, PT, PhD, NCS, PCS; Teresa M Steffen, PT, PhD; Jane Sullivan, PT, MS, DHS

Course Description: Just as the master carpenter must use precision measurement in design and construction, so must the physical therapist be equipped to craft intervention guided by precise, meaningful measurement. Assembling an evidence-based toolbox for this purpose can be a daunting task, but remains essential for master neurologic physical therapy practice and optimal outcome measurement. This 2-day course, using the ICF model, will discuss essential adult neurologic measurement tools applied across practice settings. Based on available evidence, emphasis will be placed on the participants' ability to identify the best tool(s) for specific patient groups, measurement interpretation, and tool adaptation for non-standardized situations.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Discuss the practical relevance for incorporating the International Classification for Function and Disability (ICF) model into clinical practice;
- Effectively use published reliability and validity data to identify appropriate objective measures, across the ICF model, for specific patient populations including: stroke, spinal cord injury, brain injury, neurodegenerative diseases, vestibular dysfunction, and balance and fall prevention management;
- Differentiate appropriate measurement tools for various practice settings (acute hospital, inpatient rehabilitation, home health, skilled nursing facility, outpatient clinic);
- Independently and accurately apply neurologic screening, examination, and measurement, including making reasonable adaptation for non-standardized situations, to select patient cases; and
- Interpret test results and discuss management implications.

II. Expanding Neurologic Expertise: Advanced Practice in Vestibular Physical Therapy

Course Content Coordinator: Susan L Whitney, PT, DPT, PhD, NCS, FAPTA

Course Developers: Janet Callahan PT, MS, NCS; Rene' D Crumley, PT, DPT, NCS; Cheryl Ford-Smith, PT, DPT, MS, NCS; Michael Furtado, PT, DPT, NCS, CBIS; Colin R Grove, PT, MS, NCS; Janet O Helminski, PT, PhD; Janene M Holmberg, DPT, NCS; Kristen M Johnson, PT, MS, NCS; Karen H Lambert MPT, NCS; Laura O Morris, PT, NCS; Anne Mucha, PT, MS, NCS; Michael C Schubert, PT, PhD; Susan L. Whitney, PT, DPT, PhD, NCS, ATC, FAPTA

Course Description: Developed by a team of clinicians with expertise in vestibular rehabilitation, this course is designed to expand knowledge of complex vestibular pathologies, improve clinical reasoning in differential diagnosis and present innovative intervention strategies. To facilitate learning, the course uses interactive case-based presentations and video eye movement analyses on complex vestibular diagnoses including migraine, anxiety, atypical BPPV, central vestibular dysfunction, and brain injury. Specific attention to recent advances in examination and intervention strategies are presented. Learners will have the opportunity to collaborate with each other to solve specific clinical questions via electronic searches and peer interaction.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course, participants will:

- Improve their history taking/interpretation skills in persons with a wide variety of vestibular disorders.
- Enhance their understanding of vestibular diagnostic and functional testing, improve ability to recommend testing when appropriate and utilize information for clinical management.
- Understand the positive and negative effects of pharmacological interventions.
- Improve skills for accurate differential diagnosis, integrating the use of eye motion analysis, tests of postural control, positional tests, and key aspects of the patient's history.
- Increase their knowledge of tests and measures that may be optimal for managing those with vestibular disorders.
- Increase awareness of available literature to enhance vestibular physical therapy practice.
- Identify psychogenic factors in the dizzy patient and modify clinical management accordingly.
- Actively apply advanced clinical skills and knowledge to more effectively treat migraine related dizziness, anxiety, complex and difficult forms of benign paroxysmal positional vertigo, peripheral and central vestibular disorders, and head injury.
- Be exposed to new technological advances in vestibular testing and intervention.

III. Neurologic Practice Essentials: Clinical Decision Making as a Foundation for Expert Practice

Course Content Coordinator: Kathleen M Gill-Body, PT, PhD, NCS

Course Developers: Lee Dibble, PT, PhD, ATC; Nancy Fell, PT, PhD, NCS; Kathleen M. Gill-Body, PT, DPT, MS, NCS; Lois Hedman, PT, MS; Julie Hershberg, PT, DPT, NCS; Karen McCulloch, PT, PhD, NCS; Shari McDowell, PT; Andy Packel, PT, NCS; Kristin Parlman, PT, DPT, NCS; Patricia L Scheets, PT, DPT, MHS, NCS; Mike Studer, PT, MHS, NCS; Candy Tefertiller, DPT, ATP, NCS; Cindy Zaboltny PT, DPT, MS, NCS

Course Description: Novices develop clinical competence and evolve into expert practitioners by making decisions that involved the complementary processes of systematic analysis and intuition. This 2-day course was developed with the overall objective of strengthening skills for all therapists seeking to advance their neurologic physical therapist practice. Participants will utilize current frameworks for clinical decision making to assist them in analyzing neurologic patient cases in the areas of balance and falls, brain injury, Guillain-Barre syndrome, Parkinson's disease, spinal cord injury, stroke, and vestibular dysfunction. Participants will apply current evidence and clinical guidelines in making patient management decisions particularly in the areas of evaluation, prognosis, and intervention. Given both the breadth and the depth of the course, participation may assist the physical therapist interested in sitting for the Neurologic Clinical Specialist exam.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to

- Complete a self-evaluation of preparedness for advanced neurologic physical therapist practice and describe strategies for individual professional growth;
- Systematically apply clinical decision-making frameworks to neurologic physical therapist practice including examination, screening for referral, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, and intervention (including treatment progression);
- Develop focused clinical questions for seeking evidence to support clinical decisions;
- Accurately apply current evidence and clinical practice guidelines, in combination with patient values, to optimize prognostic and intervention decisions in a variety of neurologic patient populations; and
- Discuss "take-home messages" for elevating practice that can be implemented in the clinical environment.

Minimum facility requirements for hosting any of these courses:

- Courses typically run on Saturdays (8am-5pm) and Sundays (8am to 5pm). This is negotiable.
- Prior experience hosting courses including developed local marketing strategy and list of marketing contacts.
- For Section-sponsored course, location within reasonable distance of a major airport or railway is recommended
- Readily accessible ground transportation options
- At least 3 hotels within vicinity of facility if in a major city, preferably with one that is within walking distance of the facility
- Readily accessible parking for the facility, preferably at no charge
- Auditorium or classroom style seating to seat up to the maximum participants determined. Provide adjacent or nearby space for lab (if lab sessions are included within the course). Provide adjacent or nearby breakout classrooms (if concurrent sessions are included within the course).
- Accessibility for participants with disability.
- One point person for all advance arrangements and correspondence with Section
- One onsite administrator responsible for management of the onsite course logistics which include, but are not limited to, catering, registration (at least one table for registration outside the classroom), CEU/attendance verification, rooms and audiovisual sets, course evaluation collection.
- Course site set up and functional (e.g. electronic equipment tested) and registration table ready to welcome participants no less than 1 hour before course is scheduled to begin.
- Order and receive catering needs of continental breakfast with beverages and morning and afternoon snacks at the break for all participants and course faculty, with sensitivity to dietary restrictions, at rate negotiated with the Section.

Additional specific facility requirements per course:

NOTE: Certain instructors may have specific or unique requirements related to the course which may not be identified here. The Section will require instructors to submit specifications in writing that will be shared with the host facility no less than 60 days prior to course commencement.

Course I: Neurologic Practice Essentials: A Measurement Toolbox

Minimum of 2 Speakers Required

Handout duplication cost is approximately \$22/unit.

Single large classroom set accommodating at least 40 participants, with internet capabilities and audiovisuals (2 LCD projectors, screen, laser pointer; microphone as space dictates; speakers are responsible for bringing laptop computers) and tables for participants to use for all of the whole group activities (day 1 morning; day 2 end of day). Two adjacent rooms that can be used concurrently for breakout lab sessions with the following equipment: 4-6 mat tables; 4-6 stools; 4-6 gait belts; 4-6 yardsticks; 2 rolls blue painter's tape (to mark floors); 4-6 clipboards; 8 cones (DGI); 4-6 tape measures; 4-6 stop watches; 4-6 tuning forks; 4-6 reflex hammers; 4 penlight flashlights; 1 box paper clips; cotton balls/Q tips; 2 shoe boxes (DGI); stairs (DGI/FGA); 8 sharpie markers; 2-3 Post-it Note easel pads; 1-2 easels. One of the two adjacent lab rooms should have the capability for LCD projector.

This course will hold a patient lab on day 2 with the following needs:

Sufficient number of patients for the lab for a 5:1 to 6:1 therapist:patient ratio.

All patients should be willing to sign a consent form.

All patients should be able to minimally stand and potentially have some ambulatory capacity (e.g. no individuals with complete cervical SCI).

Patient diagnoses: Prefer 1-3 with CVA/TBI; Other potential diagnoses might include: PD, MS, SCI, Guillian Barre, ALS, vestibular dysfunction

All patients should arrive 15-20 minutes prior to the start of the session in order to meet the instructors and complete paperwork/informed consent.

Course II: Expanding Neurologic Expertise: Advanced Practice in Vestibular Physical Therapy

Minimum of 3 Speakers Required

Handout duplication cost is approximately \$15/unit.

Single large classroom set accommodating at least 60 participants, with audiovisuals (LCD projector, screen, microphone as space dictates; speakers are responsible for bringing laptop computers). Tables supporting body weight are required for a 1-hour lab. The classroom must be a very dark room such that eye movies may be shown without too much sunlight. Also prefer a facility which can provide participants with wireless internet access.

Course III: Neurologic Practice Essentials: Clinical Decision Making as a Foundation for Expert Practice

Minimum of 3 Speakers Required

Handout duplication cost is approximately \$30/unit.

Single large classroom set accommodating at least 60 participants, with audiovisuals (LCD projector, screen, microphone as space dictates; speakers are responsible for bringing laptop computers).

This course will hold concurrent classroom sessions on day 2 requiring a total of three medium-large classroom sets each accommodating ~30 participants, with audiovisuals (LCD projector, screen, microphone as space dictates; speakers are responsible for bringing laptop computers).