



Medical Assistance Profession

health care



Job description

Physical therapist assistant



Hungary

Foreword

This document has been produced during the Leonardo da Vinci project MAP:ECVET (medical assistance profession and ECVET) in the program of Life Long Learning.

The MAP:ECVET project deals with an European problem (transparency of European education systems and degrees in the field of medical assistance) and develops its approaches to solutions on the basis of European models (ECVET and EQF).

This document reflects current practice and has been developed following a consultation process with members of Physical therapist assistant, education facilities, employers, representatives of chamber of doctors and union and was assisted by science specialists.

The structure of this document should be seen as an approach to describe in general different professional contents of medical assistant professions around Europe in the same way.

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Contents

Introduction.....	6
1.1 Project MAP:ECVET	6
1.2 Job description.....	6
1.3 Job description and competence based framework	6
1.4 Responsibility for the design of the Job description	6
Physical therapist assistant – overview	7
The activity area(s) of Physical therapist assistant	8
Workplace of Physical therapist assistant.....	9
Responsibilities of the Physical therapist assistant.....	10
Responsibilities of the supervisor	11
The scope of practice of Physical therapist assistant in relation to specific procedures	12
Core task 1.....	12
1.1 Admission of a patient	12
1.2 Provide information to patient and giving information	12
1.3 Preparation of workplace and patient	12
Core task 2.....	14
2.1 Execution of electrotherapy	14
2.2 Mechano therapy.....	15
2.3 Thermo therapy	15
2.4 Hydrotherapy	15
2.5 Balneotherapy	15
2.6 Inhalation therapy	16
2.7 Cave- and climate therapy.....	16
2.8 Execute the prescribed massage	16
2.9 Recognises the emergency situations, gives first aid or take action for asking for help	16

2.10 If necessary consult with the doctor.....	16
2.11 Documentation and archiving of actions carried out.....	16
2.12 Service, maintenance of workplace and instruments.....	16
2.13 Teach the use of medical aids for patients	17
Core task 3.....	17
3.1 Participation and coordination in organization and administration	17
3.2 Continuous improvement and development of vocational skills and knowledge/ know-how	17
3.3 Support and attendance in projects, studies and team meetings	17
3.4 Observation of quality standards	18
3.5. Participation in evaluation process	18
3.6 Instruct and support apprentices	18
3.7 Assessment of apprentices	18
Functional diagnosis	18

Introduction

1.1 Project MAP:ECVET

The MAP:ECVET project deals with an European problem – “transparency of European education systems and degrees in the field of medical assistance”.

It appears to be absolutely clear and obvious that the European problem of insufficient transparency and crediting possibilities in the fields of medical assistance that has been described can only be faced and solved by way of a European approach. In the project MAP:ECVET we merged the different perspectives of the individual European partner countries for the development of a common model. This model becomes important for the transnational cooperation in the field of health care professions around Europe.

This job description of Physical therapist assistant together with the competence based framework enables the comparability and a mutual recognition and crediting between the partner countries. Labour market disparities within the European project partnership can be levelled.

1.2 Job description

This job description gives an abstract overview about the tasks and duties of the medical assistance professions in the scope of practice.

1.3 Job description and competence based framework

The job description should be always used together with the “MAP:ECVET competence bases framework”. Together with the job description it will be possible to compare professions and define their qualifications.

1.4 Responsibility for the design of the Job description

The question of responsibility for creating the job description is different in the partner countries. Never the less, it must be guaranteed that experts are creating the job description, knowing exactly the contents and specifications.

Physical therapist assistant – overview

The physical therapist assistant independently or according to recommendations of specialists executes professional tasks in field of prevention, recreation and rehabilitation towards the patient centered, effective and economically medical attendance in accordance with EU conformity.

Personal competences: toleration/ patient, manual skills, reliability, decisiveness, exactitude.

Social competences: good communication skills, explicitness, ability of empathy, understandable, conflict management skills.

Methodological competences: ability of over viewing the situation, right application of knowledge, problem analysis and exploration, problem solving, trouble-shooting, environment grooming.

With the physiotherapy methods can affect on:

- Locomotor system (muscles and sceletal system),
- the circulatory system (cardiovascular and lymph system),
- the viscera (digestion, respiration, urine excretion),
- the nervous system and senses

Effects caused by the physiotherapy methods:

- pain reduction,
- intensifies the blood circulation of tissues,
- enhancement of weak or atrophied muscles,
- relaxation of spastic muscles,
- decreases inflammations.

The activity area(s) of Physical therapist assistant

The application of physio therapy activities in different fields healthcare:

- Rheumatology (degenerative illness, deteriorations etc.),
- Traumatology, (injuries, before and after surgery status),
- Gynaecology (Adnexitis, Mastitis etc.),
- Nose-ears-throat (Sinusitis, Otitis externa etc.),
- Orthopaedic (before and after surgery status),
- Urology (Cystitis, Pyelitis etc.),
- Dermatology (Psoriasis),
- Pulmonology (Asthma bronchiole).
- Neurology (paralysis, chronic inflammations)
- Paediatrics (weakness of bladder muscles)
- Geriatric

Workplace of Physical therapist assistant

The Physiotherapist assistants are allowed to work in:

- public hospitals, clinics,
- private hospitals, clinics and health centres
- homecare services,
- social and twilight homes,
- their own home,
- rehabilitation institutes,
- in sport centres , schools,
- in spa, health club, fitness centres,
- researcher and training centres

Responsibilities of the Physical therapist assistant

- To form, to ensure and to control all necessary conditions for the treatments (admission of patient),
- Application of learned clinical knowledge,
- Development and improvement of good communication,
- Health education, counselling
- Teaching for patients activities, treatment which can be done in their home
- Application of efficient therapies (electrotherapy, phototherapy, hydro- and thermotherapy, mechanotherapy, inhalation, balneotherapy)
- Execution of documentation activities
- Giving first aid (if necessary)
- Continuous professional development
- Following the quality standards and requirements
- Application of hygienic rules
- Takes care of machines, tools and instruments
- Research activities
- Application of labour safety and fire service rules
- Knows and observe the environmental rules
- Applies the secrecy and ethical rules
- Knows and works within organisational structure

Responsibilities of the supervisor

The supervisor of the Physical therapist assistant

The supervisor has the responsibility to find, adapt and teach new methods or procedures and supervise and coordinate the work of physical therapist assistant who works according to instructions of specialist doctor but independently. The supervisor is also responsible for the organisation of the learning, development of the skills of the physical therapist assistants.

- The leader assistant on the given professional field ,
- Specialist doctor
- Association of Physioterapist Professionals

The scope of practice of Physical therapist assistant in relation to specific procedures

Core task 1

1.1 Admission of a patient

The patient arrives with treatment/ therapy plan defined by the specialist doctor (the assistant should know that the patient from which field is coming)

Take on overview on the treatment/ therapy plan

Documentation, use of PC, understands the healthcare terminology

Use of BNO codes

Use of codes which identifies the intervention

1.2 Provide information to patient and giving information

Conversation with the patient: asks about the other illnesses, contraindications such as fever, infection, drug allergy

Collection of information about location and frequency of pain

Give information about the process of therapy, the possible experiences during the therapy. And ask the patient to inform she/he about the unwanted, unexpected feelings (burning, stinging feelings).

After the therapy gives information about the possible effects of the therapy

Compliance of the date of the next therapy

Documentation of all information on therapy sheet and in computer

1.3 Preparation of workplace and patient

Depending on therapy preparation of all instruments, tools (bed, tub, basin)

The therapist asks the patient to set free that part of the body where the therapy will be.

Usage of comfort tools (pillow, blanket, handrail)

Core task 2

Independently, but according to the instruction of specialist execution of light therapy

2.1 Execution of electrotherapy

Stable galvanic therapy

Special galvanic therapies

- Bourgignon therapy
- Bergonier therapy
- Kowarschik – therapy
- RIESZ Calcium electro stasis
- Whole galvanic bath
- Partial galvanic bath
- Iontophoresis therapy (Pay attention on drug allergy!)
 - Register of liquors and ointment (This is the register of drugs divided into two groups of the the two charge (+;-). These drugs are used and taken into the body during iontophoresis by galvanic or stimulation stream.
 - Use of solutions which can be introduced from anode and from cathode
- Electro stimulation therapy
 - Execution of dynamic stream therapy
 - Execution of selective stimulation current therapy
 - Execution of TENS (Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation) therapies
- Middle frequency therapy
 - Interferential therapy
- Magneto therapy
 - BEMER- therapy
 - Light therapies
 - Light therapy – infrared

- Light therapy – laser
 - UV-light therapy
 - Visible light therapy
 - Evolite therapy
- High frequency therapies:
 - Short-wave therapy
 - Ultra high frequency therapy
 - Micro-wave therapy (Important: Protect the eye, testicle and the growing cartilage with wire gauze glasses and occlusive tools!)

2.2 Mechano therapy

Ultrasound

Sonophoresis

2.3 Thermotherapy

Thermo- paraffin pack

2.4 Hydrotherapy

Bath therapy with different and alternate temperature, packs, compress, weight bath, sparkling bath, under water treatment, under water gymnastics, under water massage.

Under water ultrasound therapy

2.5 Balneotherapy

Bath therapy with different types of active substance (sulphurous, salty, sparkling etc.)

Mud-therapy

Drinking cure

2.6 Inhalation therapy

2.7 Cave- and climate therapy

2.8 Execute the prescribed massage

Preparation of the place of massage (comfort, appropriate temperature), makes the examinations before massage:

- skin conditions (colour, tissue swelling, temperature)
- joint deformities,
- measurement of extremities etc.
- tone of muscles

2.9 Recognises the emergency situations, gives first aid or take action for asking for help

2.10 If necessary consult with the doctor

In case of acute symptoms/ change of recent conditions of body

During therapy sudden symptom or reaction appears

2.11 Documentation and archiving of actions carried out

Documentation, use of PC, uses the healthcare/medical terminology

Use of BNO codes

Use of codes which identifies the intervention

All the data and information is introduced on paper and also electronically

2.12 Service, maintenance of workplace and instruments

Disinfection of machines, tools, devices

In case of error he/she calls the technical staff

Uses quality management standards

2.13 Teach the use of medical aids for patients

Core task 3

3.1 Participation and coordination in organization and administration

Relationship of physiotherapist assistant:

- works in team with his/ her colleagues
- everyone has own tasks
- communicates and cooperates with all professional groups

Members of the team:

- specialist doctors, physiotherapists, physiotherapist assistant
masseurs, nurses.

The aims the realization of the complex treatment in one day, electrotherapy, massage and medicinal gymnastics

3.2 Continuous improvement and development of vocational skills and knowledge/ know-how

- participates in further training and advanced education
- participates in trainings on how to use machines
- participates and assists in internal trainings
- internal and external trainings and knowledge acquisition by actual professional literature as well as transfer of new findings

3.3 Support and attendance in projects, studies and team meetings

- assists and cooperates in science and research
- able to help in data collection for research
- participates in team meetings, also cross professional

3.4 Observation of quality standards

- uses quality management standards
- controls the usage of quality standards
- documents the usage of quality standards

3.5. Participation in evaluation process

- active participating in team meetings
- presents his/her own experiences and opinions
- critically review the evidence base for their practice

3.6 Instruct and support apprentices

- introduces and guides trainees
- shows and interprets the work flow to apprentices
- gives experiences, helps in learning on the field of practical education.

3.7 Assessment of apprentices

The physical therapist assistant has only competence in cooperation in the assessment of apprentices. They do this ethically and with integrity

Functional diagnosis

Execution of functional diagnosis is not the part of competences of this profession.