



<b>Job Title: Occupational Therapist</b>	<b>Classification: Per Diem</b>
<b>Reports to: Area Manager / Home Health Operations</b>	<b>Date: 6/2014 Updated 1/17</b>

**Position Overview:**

Responsible for the evaluation, planning, implementation, treatment and documentation of client status for home health clients.

**Principal Duties:**

- Provides skilled occupational therapy in accordance with the physician's plan of care. Accepts only clients referred by Generations Home Care. Demonstrates competency in skills required by the agency on at least a biannual basis.
- Evaluates and assesses the client's level functioning by applying diagnostic and prognostic procedures and tests in accordance with Occupational Therapy (OT) practice guideline. Assists in the development and revision of the plan of care.
- Designs orthotics as indicated by the client's condition and needs.
- Treats the client through the use of therapeutic activities designed to restore function and self-care activities for the purpose of improving function.
- Observes, records and reports the client's reaction to treatment and any changes in the client's condition to the physician and/or client care manager and case manager.
- Instructs and advises client, family and other health team personnel in the exercise program designed to increase the client's strength and control.
- Cooperates with appropriate staff to provide staff education when requested and arranged by the client care manager.
- Demonstrates and teaches alternate techniques to complete activities of daily living, proper transfers and positioning.
- Orders and/or fabricates adaptive/assistive devices and equipment.
- Evaluates, and or regularly reevaluates, the Occupational needs of the client; develops, implements and revises the client's plan of care. Ensures that the plan of care addresses all problems identified in the assessment or documents rationale for not doing so.
- Initiates diagnostic, preventive and rehabilitative procedures as appropriate to the client's care and safety. Makes referrals to other disciplines as indicated by the needs of the client or documents rationale for not doing so.
- Supervises the Occupational Therapy Assistant. Assess the clients ongoing Need for OT services. Communicates changes to OT plan of care as needed.

- Supervise & teach the Home Health Aide in accordance with the plan of care every two weeks & revise the plan of care as appropriate. Communicates plan of care changes to Area Manager or RN Case Manager as often as necessary.
- Observes signs and symptoms and reports changes in the client's condition to the physician, Area Manager, RN Case Manager or other appropriate health professionals as often as needed.
- Teaches, supervises and counsels the client and family regarding home rehabilitation procedures and other care needs as appropriate to the client's condition. Utilizes agency educational material as appropriate.
- Coordinates the total plan of care and maintains continuity of client care by liaisons with other health professionals assigned to the same clients.
- Attends client care conferences. Initiates client care conferences for complex and/or multidisciplinary clients whenever needed to ensure good coordination of care.
- Develops, prepares and maintains individualized client care progress records with accuracy, timeliness and according to policies.
- Participates in the agency's quality improvement program.
- Keeps abreast of OT trends and knowledge.
- Participates in in-service programs.

#### **Qualifications and Skills:**

- Registered by the American Occupational Therapy Association or successfully completed the educational requirements of occupational therapy and licensed in the State of Delaware.
- Demonstrated knowledge and skills necessary to provide care to and communicate with primarily the geriatric population, and to a lesser degree, the pediatric and adult populations.
- Demonstrated knowledge of the principles of growth and development over the life span.
- Able to assess data reflecting the client's status and interpret the appropriate information needed to identify each client's requirements relative to their age-specific needs.

#### **Physical Demands/Environment:**

- Must be able to adapt to the client's status and needs.
- Occasional schedule changes due to the client's condition and/or new clients.
- Possible infection from clients, safety hazards include auto accidents, unsafe neighborhoods.

- **While performing the duties of this job, the employee is occasionally required to stand; walk; sit; use hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools or controls; reach with hands and arms; climb stairs; balance; stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl; talk or hear; taste or smell. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by the job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.**