

DPT 708 : PT Practice Issues: Health Promotion and Wellbeing

This course focuses on managing individual needs during illness and disease as well as ways to successfully interact with and enhance health and wellbeing of patients and families in health care settings and the community. Social and structural determinants of health and their impact on health disparities will be examined across multiple levels of influence. Psychosocial and cultural responses to illness and injury will be reviewed. The course will provide a review of psychosocial and cultural aspects of illness and disability to include: (1) responses of the PT, patient/client, family, and support network to the stress of illness and disability; (2) cultural influences on the individual and family responses; (3) impact of cognitive challenges on physical therapy practice; (4) indicators of physical and sexual abuse and neglect, resource and support networks, and influence on treatment plans; (5) key aspects of various mental health issues, when to refer out, and how to promote positive interactions and changes in behavior and adherence; (6) impact of poverty on family stress and health; (7) optimal management of psychosocial issues in patient/client, social networks, and peer relationships; (8) maintaining psychological health within the professional environment. A primary focus of the course will be the promotion of evidence-based and culturally responsive behavior change in the eight dimensions of health through positive therapeutic collaboration. In addition, the course will review the need to advocate for policies that positively impact the health and wellbeing of patients and the wider society.

Credits 2