

# JOB DESCRIPTION

Benchmark Job #072

Ministry: BC Mental Health Society  
Branch: Clinical Programs  
Location: Riverview

Working Title: **Physical Therapy Aide**  
Level: Range 15  
Classification: Activity Worker

## PRIMARY FUNCTION

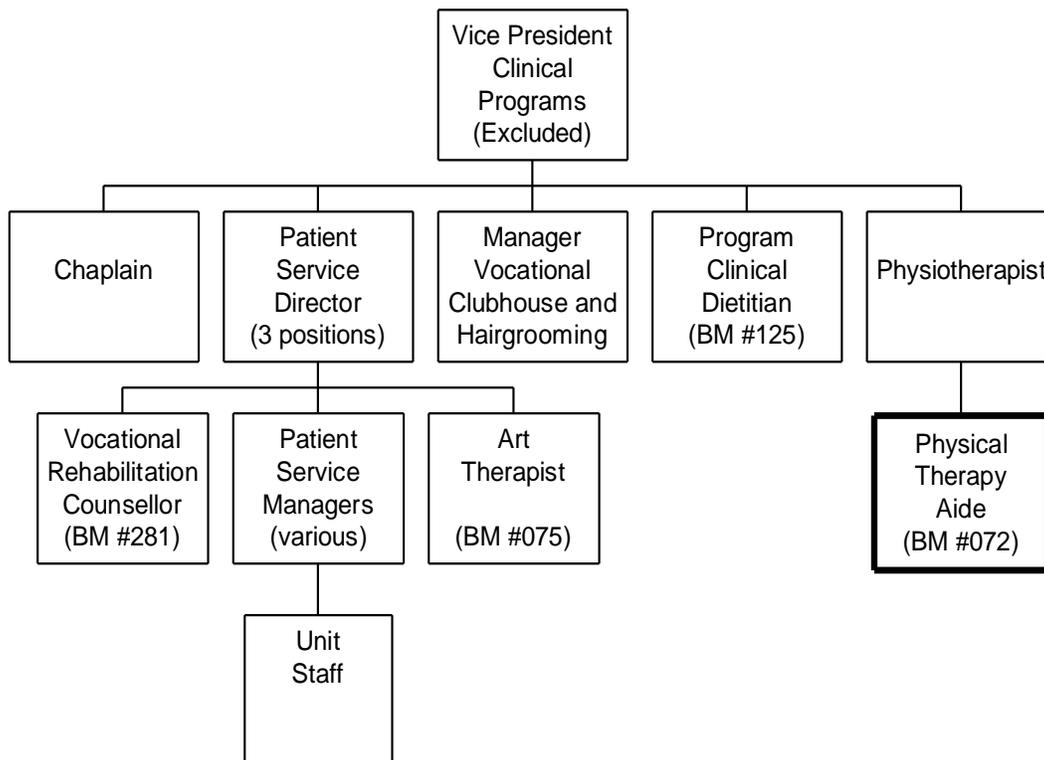
To aide the Physiotherapist in providing therapeutic treatment programs and to monitor exercise programs for institutionalized patients with psychiatric and physical disabilities.

## JOB DUTIES AND TASKS

1. Implements and monitors therapeutic programs prescribed by, and under the direction of the Physiotherapist
  - a. applies and/or uses various equipment in the treatment of patients including hot packs, ergometer, hydrotherapy tank, free weights, slings and springs
  - b. operates neuromuscular stimulator and TENS equipment (muscle stimulating device) for treatment purposes
  - c. monitors patient's use of wrist bars and shoulder wheels
  - d. positions patients, or beds, to facilitate postural drainage or maintain proper position for treatment
  - e. aides patients with walking progression programs including teaching, assisting and monitoring patients' use of devices such as canes, crutches, walkers, argo walkers, stairs and parallel bars
  - f. assists Physiotherapist with wheel chair mobility programs to teach patients to manoeuvre their own chair and to provide strengthening exercises so that they can operate them
  - g. implements prescribed exercise programs to increase range of motion, strength, mobility, balance and transfers
  - h. conducts group programs including general fitness programs and specific exercise programs for individuals with related conditions such as hip fractures or shoulder injuries
  - i. provides verbal reports to the Physiotherapist on patient progress and program changes
  - j. attends ward rounds, as required, to report recorded patient progress and attendance at therapy
2. Performs administrative and record keeping duties
  - a. records daily statistics on patient attendance and type and length of treatment and compiles at the end of the four week reporting period
  - b. books appointments and prepares and revises treatment schedules
  - c. files patient reports and strips files after seven years or if patient dies
  - d. deposits and collects mail
3. Maintains and cleans the work area and equipment
  - a. ensures adequate linen supply
  - b. disinfects chairs and beds after use and cleans equipment such as hydrocollater
  - c. completes requisition forms for supplies and signs for goods received
  - d. communicates with housekeeping regarding physical therapy needs
4. Performs other related duties
  - a. exchanges or shares verbal information regarding patients such as attendance and behaviour, with ward staff
  - b. instructs volunteers, practicum students and relief physiotherapy assistants on how to carry out program activities
  - c. prepares patients for treatment by ensuring proper patient attire
  - d. assist patients to dress and undress when required
  - e. escorts patients to and from the wards
  - f. applies non-violent crisis intervention techniques to defuse hostile or aggressive behaviour
  - g. attends meetings as required

ORGANIZATION CHART  
Benchmark Job #072

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## REASON FOR CLASSIFICATION

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FACTOR NO.	REASON FOR CLASSIFICATION	DEGREE	CLASS. POINTS
1	<p><b>JOB KNOWLEDGE</b> Understand and apply the accepted methods of physical therapy to implement and monitor therapy programs such as exercise programs, walking progression, wheel chair mobility, and positioning to improve the functional motor skills of patients with multiple disabilities.</p>	E	145
2	<p><b>MENTAL DEMANDS</b> Judgement to assess patient progress and choose an approach using a combination of accepted physical therapy techniques and equipment to implement individual and physical group therapy programs to improve functional motor skills of patients with multiple disabilities.</p>	D	100
3	<p><b>INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS</b> Persuasion required to use basic counselling skills to encourage and motivate patients with multiple disabilities to participate in physical therapy.</p>	D	45
4	<p><b>PHYSICAL COORDINATION AND DEXTERITY</b> Significant coordination and dexterity required to lift, pull and adjust patients to facilitate postural drainage or maintain proper position for treatment.</p>	D	22.5
5	<p><b>RESPONSIBILITY FOR WORK ASSIGNMENTS</b> Guided by specific procedures and previous instruction, select a course of action to complete assignments to implement physical therapy programs and monitor and record patient progress.</p>	C	50
6	<p><b>RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL RESOURCES</b> Financial responsibility to complete requisition forms needed supplies and sign for goods received.</p>	A	5
7	<p><b>RESPONSIBILITY FOR PHYSICAL ASSETS/INFORMATION</b> Some responsibility to access and update resident files.</p>	B	10

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FACTOR NO.	REASON FOR CLASSIFICATION	DEGREE	CLASS. POINTS
8	<b>RESPONSIBILITY FOR HUMAN RESOURCES</b> Responsibility to provide formal instruction to volunteers, practicum students and relief staff on how to carry out program activities.	B	9
9	<b>RESPONSIBILITY FOR WELL BEING/SAFETY OF OTHERS</b> Considerable care and attention to provide direct physical therapy to patients in an institution.	E	40
10	<b>SENSORY EFFORT/MULTIPLE DEMANDS</b> Intense awareness of others to almost always observe multiple handicapped residents requiring intervention to prevent harm while conducting physical therapy activities.	D	18
11	<b>PHYSICAL EFFORT</b> Heavy physical effort to regularly lift, push and pull heavy residents while performing physical therapy activities.	E	24
12	<b>SURROUNDINGS</b> Exposure to involvement with unpredictable institutionalized patients, almost always.	D	9
13	<b>HAZARDS</b> High level of exposure to hazards from almost always working around institutionalized patients during physical/occupational therapy sessions, who may react violently.	E	12

**Total Points: 489.5**

**Level: Range 15**