

**NWTC PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM**  
**Musculoskeletal Rehab / 10-524-145**  
**GRADING RUBRIC FOR PRACTICAL EXAM**

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ INSTRUCTOR: \_\_\_\_\_ CASE: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS = \_\_\_\_\_ / 100

***Critical elements essential to successful practical completion:***

- 1.) Introduces self to patient prior to beginning treatment using full name and designation of "student physical therapist assistant from NWTC".***
- 2.) Requests and receives consent to treat.***
- 3.) Performs in a safe manner that minimizes risk to patient.***
- 4.) Functions within an existing physical therapy plan of care***

***Failure to demonstrate all identified critical elements will result in an automatic "0" on the practical examination.***

- I.) PROPER ROLE PLAY FOR PARTNER (10 POINTS):**  
10 = Appropriately demonstrates the symptoms and functional level of the patient in the practical scenario, does not attempt to coach or cue partner in any way.  
8 = Minor issues with one of the above areas  
6 = Minor issues with multiple areas  
4 = Major issues with one areas  
2 = Major issues with multiple areas  
0 = Does not accurately depict the patient
- II.) ASSESSMENT-2 or 3 tests to check patient status and RX effectiveness (15 POINTS):**  
15 = Gets informed consent from patient, chooses appropriate assessments for checking patient status and treatment effectiveness, performs assessments in a technically competent manner, using accurate patient position, hand placements and facilitation; interventions are effective and efficient, and use good body mechanics/safety.  
12-14 = Minor issues with some of the above areas  
9-11 = Major issue with one area, minor issues with some others  
6-8 = Major issues with multiple areas  
3-5 = Major issues with almost all areas  
0 = did not perform assessments

- III.) EDUCATION- 2-3 key education topics (15 POINTS):**  
15 = Explains main diagnosis to patient, chooses at least 1 other appropriate education item , all items comprehensive, and well explained, without use of technical jargon, and using appropriate examples/illustrations. Patient comprehension is assessed.  
12-14 = Minor issues with some of the above areas  
9-11 = Major issue with one area, minor issues with some others  
6-8 = Major issues with multiple areas  
3-5 = Major issues with almost all areas  
0 = Does not perform education

- IV.) INTERVENTION (50 POINTS):**  
**Performance:**  
35 = Chooses an appropriate intervention, performs intervention in a technically competent manner, using accurate patient position, hand placements and facilitation; intervention is effective and efficient. Suggestion for progression or regression of intervention is appropriate and well thought out Performance is safe, environment is safe, patient is handled safely, and good body mechanics are used.  
28-34 = Minor issues with some of the above areas  
21-27 = Major issue with one area, minor issues with some others  
14-20 = Major issues with two areas  
7-13 = Major issues with almost all areas  
0 = does not perform intervention

**Patient Interaction:**  
15=Gets informed consent for procedure performed, (explains treatment to be performed AND reason for treatment), communicates in a respectful manner, demonstrates appropriate verbal/nonverbal communication, actively seeks feedback from patient on intervention, responds to nonverbal communication, and modifies own communication styles as indicated.  
12-14 = Minor Issues with some of the above areas  
9-11 = Major issue with one area, minor issues with some others  
6-8 = Major issues with multiple areas  
3-5 = Major issues with almost all areas  
0 = No significant patient interaction occurs

- V.) OVERALL TREATMENT ORGANIZATION (10 POINTS):**  
10 = Suggests 2 additional interventions that are appropriate and well thought out, clearly describes order and interrelationship of treatments.  
8-9 = Minor issues with one of the above areas  
6-7 = Minor issues with multiple areas  
4-5 = Major issues with one areas  
2-3 = Major issues with multiple areas  
0 = Does not describe other treatments