

## PHTH 571 PHYSICAL THERAPY CLINICAL PRACTICUM 1

**Credits:** 7

**Prerequisites:** **Successful completion of:**  
PT Ortho Management (PHTH-550)  
Integrated Ortho Management (PHTH-560)  
PT Neuro Rehab (PHTH-551)  
Integrated Neuro Rehab (PHTH-561)  
Cardiorespiratory Rehab (PHTH-552/554) and  
Foundations of Professional Practice (POTH-563).

### **Additional prerequisites include:**

- meeting requirements for immunizations, CPR, mask fitting, and a criminal record check (solemn oath). Proof of having met these requirements must be submitted by March 1<sup>st</sup> on MyCourses e-clinical. Delays in assigning a clinical placement may ensue if proof is not submitted on time.
- the equivalent of a compulsory 2-day workshop on Principles for Moving Patients Safely (PDSB).
- basic conversational French language proficiency is necessary to complete clinical placements in a timely manner.

### **Instructors:**

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On-site Clinical Coordinators and Clinicians from McGill Affiliated Hospitals and physiotherapy clinics provide clinical supervision of students.

**Course Description:** This 7-week course is the first in a series of four (4) clinical practicums where the student will be able to assess, re-evaluate and treat patients with musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, neurological disorders and complex health conditions across the lifespan (except pediatrics) and in various practice settings. The Clinical Education Guidelines for Canadian University Programs <sup>1</sup> are used to guide in the selection of a clinical placement in order to fulfill the national requirements for entry to practice.

### **Student Learning Objectives:**

Each domain describes an essential competency leading to entry to practice milestones. Definition of the minimal skills required for each essential competency can be found on MyCourses, Competency Profile for Physiotherapist in Canada 2017, appendix 2. The opportunity for meeting the student learning objectives below during a clinical placement will vary considering the placement setting and the area of physiotherapy practice.

During the first clinical placement, the student will achieve the following entry to practice essential competencies:

#### Domain 1: Physiotherapy Expertise

Learning objective	Milestone
Employ a client-centered approach	1.1.1 -1.1.6
Ensure physical and emotional safety of client	1.2.1-1.2.5
Conduct a client assessment	1.3.1-1.3.7
Establish a diagnosis and prognosis	1.4.1-1.4.6
Develop, implement, monitor and evaluate an intervention plan	1.5.1-1.5.7
Complete or transition care	1.6.1-1.6.4

#### Domain 2: Communication

Learning objective	Milestone
Use oral and non-verbal communication effectively	2.1.1 -2.1.4
Use written communication effectively	2.2.1-2.2.3
Adapt communication approach to context	2.3.1-2.3.5
Use communication tools and technology effectively	2.4.1-2.4.3

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<sup>1</sup> Entry-to-Practice Physiotherapy Curriculum: A Companion Document - Clinical Education Guidelines for Canadian University Programs June 2011.

### Domain 3: Collaboration

Learning objective	Milestone
Promote an integrated approach to client services	3.1.1 – 3.1.2
Facilitate collaborative relationships	3.2.1-3.2.5
Contribute to effective teamwork	3.3.1-3.3.5
Contribute to conflict resolution	3.4.1-3.4.2

### Domain 4: Management

Learning objective	Milestone
Support organizational excellence	4.1.1 – 4.1.4
Utilize resources efficiently and effectively	4.2.1 - 4.2.4
Ensure a safe practice environment	4.3.1 - 4.3.6
Supervise others	4.5.1 – 4.5.4
Manage practice information safely and effectively	4.6.1 – 4.6.4

### Domain 5: Leadership

Learning objective	Milestone
Champion the health needs of clients	5.1.1 – 5.1.3
Promote innovation in healthcare	5.2.1 - 5.2.3
Contribute to leadership in the profession	5.3.1 - 5.3.3

### Domain 6: Scholarship

Learning objective	Milestone
Use an evidence-informed approach in practice	6.1.1 – 6.1.5
Integrate self-reflection and external feedback to improve personal practice	6.3.1 – 6.3.4
Maintain currency with developments relevant to area of practice	6.4.1 – 6.4.2
Contribute to the learning of others	6.5.1- 6.5.4

### Domain 7: Professionalism

Learning objective	Milestone
Comply with legal and regulatory requirements	7.1.1 – 7.1.3
Behave ethically	7.2.1 – 7.2.3
Embrace social responsibility as a health professional	7.3.1 – 7.3.2
Act with professional integrity	7.4.1 – 7.4.7
Maintain personal wellness consistent with the needs of practice	7.5.1 – 7.5.2

During the first clinical placement, a student shall demonstrate a progression in acquiring competencies that reflect movement from a performance considered at a **beginner level** to that of **advanced beginner**. An exceptional student will demonstrate performance at the **intermediate level** or exceeding it. Although a student can be rated at any point on the rating scale, for the first clinical placement these are the three most relevant levels of performance.

### **Beginner Performance:**

- The student requires close supervision 90-100% of the time managing patients with constant monitoring even with patients with simple conditions.
- The student requires frequent cueing and feedback.
- Performance is inconsistent and clinical reasoning is performed at a very basic level.
- The student is not able to carry a caseload.

### **Advanced Beginner Performance:**

- The student requires clinical supervision 75% to 90% of the time managing patients with simple conditions and 100% of the time managing patients with complex conditions.
- The student demonstrates consistency in developing proficiency with simple tasks (eg. chart review, goniometry, muscle testing and simple interventions).
- The student initiates, but is inconsistent with comprehensive assessments, interventions, and clinical reasoning.
- The student will begin to share a caseload with the clinical instructor.

### **Intermediate Performance:**

- The student requires clinical supervision less than 50% of the time managing patients with simple conditions and 75% of the time managing patients with complex conditions.
- The student is proficient with simple tasks and is developing the ability to consistently perform comprehensive assessments, interventions, and clinical reasoning.
- The student is capable of maintaining 50% of a full-time physical therapist's caseload.

### **Instructional Method:**

**Clinical supervision** is provided by a Physical Therapist to assist the transition of the novice student to an entry-level practitioner. Clinical educators are encouraged to use the 2:1 model of supervision (2 students to 1 physical therapist) to enhance clinical reasoning through reciprocal peer coaching.

**Web-based technology tools** and **clinical seminars** are used to facilitate the student's learning by enhancing readiness for a placement, providing support during a placement and encouraging post-placement reflection. The e-Clinical MyCourses web-based platform is used in conjunction with on-site practicum experience. Clinical practicum experiences in different sites may vary according to the types of clients available.

**On-going faculty development for clinical supervisors**, in the form of annual workshops and on-site tailor-made workshops, allow supervisors to learn and upgrade their skills in clinical supervision, providing feedback and performing evaluations.

**Course Content:**

**Preparation for the first clinical placement:**

During the Fall and Winter terms of U3/QY, students:

- Complete four one hour on-line clinical education learning modules (1, 2, 3 & 7). Certificates attesting to their completion are submitted to e-Clinical on MyCourses, ideally before the seminar but ultimately by the placement start date. The modules are available on-line at [www.preceptor.ca](http://www.preceptor.ca).
- Attend four mandatory clinical seminars of two - three hours each.
- Are strongly encouraged to ensure a basic level of conversational French language proficiency

**Note:** Not completing the above tasks may delay subsequent practicums.

**Preparatory seminars:**

Term	Date	Content	Preparatory Learning Activities
U3/QY Fall Seminar 1 <b>Mandatory</b>	November (3 hours)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Overview of policies and procedures of clinical education.</li> <li>○ Requirements: CPR, immunization, mask fitting, criminal check</li> <li>○ Preparation for clinical placements</li> </ul>	MyCourses (e-Clinical)
U3/QY Winter Seminar 2: <b>Mandatory</b>	Mid- January (3 hours)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Selecting a clinical placement</li> <li>○ Setting expectations for each placement.</li> </ul>	Complete Module 1 <a href="http://www.preceptor.ca">www.preceptor.ca</a> MyCourses (e-Clinical)

Term	Date	Content	Preparatory Learning Activities
U3/QY Winter Seminar 3: <b>Mandatory</b>	Mid- February (3 hours)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Writing learning objectives</li> <li>○ Learning contract</li> <li>○ Evaluation: Canadian Physiotherapy Assessment of Clinical Performance (ACP)</li> </ul>	Complete Module 2, Module 3, Module 7 <a href="http://www.preceptor.ca">www.preceptor.ca</a> MyCourses (e-Clinical)
U3/QY Winter Seminar 4 <b>Mandatory</b>	Mid-March (3 hours)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Giving &amp; receiving feedback</li> <li>○ Dealing with conflict</li> </ul>	MyCourses (e-Clinical)
U3/QY Winter Optional	End-March	International seminar	MyCourses (e-Clinical)
U3/QY Winter (optional)	Once placements are posted there is an optional question/answer session for individual queries.		
M1 Summer term 2020			
April 20 - June 5 (7 wks)			Clinical Practicum 1 (PHTH 571)
June 8 – Aug 28 (7 wks – flexible start date)			Clinical Practicum 2 (PHTH 572)

### The clinical placement:

The first clinical practicum takes place as a full-time presence in the clinic (usually 35 hours/week), beginning in the early summer term of M1. The clinical practicum course takes place at the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC), other McGill affiliated facilities, such as hospitals, rehabilitation centres (Centre de Readaptation en Deficience Physique), private clinics, and community centres such as centres dispensing home care services, Centre Local de Services Communautaire (CLSC), Centre Hospitalier de Soins de Longue Duree (CHSLD), schools, and industry.

Although opportunities for students to complete out of province or international placements exist, the first clinical placement needs to be completed within the province of Quebec and preferably within the McGill region.

### Course Materials:

MyCourses (e-Clinical): main communication and reference tool for documents required during a clinical placement.

Canadian Physiotherapy Assessment of Clinical Performance (ACP) evaluation tool

Student Clinical Experience Booklet

Name Tag

## Required Text:

1. Principles for Moving Patients Safely. ASSTSAS 1999. This text is required for workshop participation and a reference for all future clinical practica. Available during POTH 563 Foundations of Professional Practice
2. Code of Ethics. La Gazette Officielle du Québec, 1999. Available during POTH 563 Foundations of Professional Practice

## Student evaluation

The Canadian Physiotherapy Assessment of Clinical Performance (ACP) tool is the competency-based assessment tool used to determine whether a student has attained the expectations for each clinical placement and ultimately is ready to practice. The milestones assessed by the ACP are as follows:

Items on the ACP by domain	Entry-to-Practice Milestone
Expert 1.1 – 1.8	Physiotherapy expertise 1.1 – 1.6
Communicator 2.1 – 2.3	Communication 2.1 – 2.3, 2.4.2
Collaborator 3.1 - 3.2	Collaboration 3.1 -3.4
Manager 4.1, 4.3, possibly 4.2	Management 4.2 - 4.3, 4.6 possibly 4.5
Advocate 5.1	Leadership 5.1 – 5.2
Scholarly practitioner 6.1 – 6.3	Scholarship 6.1, 6.3 – 6.5
Professional 7.1-7.3	Professionalism 5.3, 7.1 -7.5

## Range of possible placement outcomes:

Student profile	Criteria defining each student profile based on the rating scale of the ACP
<b>Credit with exceptional performance</b> - student's overall performance is exceptional and exceeds expectations for a student at that experience level (A).	All 21 items on the ACP are scored at the <b>intermediate level</b> or higher.
<b>Credit with above-average performance</b> - student's overall performance meets the expectations for an average performance. In addition, several competencies indicate performance exceeds the average expectations for the placement level (A-).	11 or more items are scored at the intermediate level or higher and no item is scored below advanced beginner level.
<b>Credit</b> – student's performance meets expectations for a student at that experience level (B+).	All 21 items are scored at least at the level of <b>advanced beginner</b> .

Student profile	Criteria defining each student profile based on the rating scale of the ACP
<b>Credit with reservation</b> – student’s performance is borderline, demonstrating areas of weakness that may require remediation (B-).	11 or more items are scored at advanced beginner or higher. Remaining 10 items are scored below the advanced beginner level.
<b>No Credit</b> – student consistently performs below the expected level and/or demonstrates significant deficits in professionalism, communication, safety or clinical reasoning (F).	Greater than 11 items are scored lower than advanced beginner.

The criteria for each student profile are subject to change.

With each Clinical Practicum, the student is expected to have reflected on his/her strengths and areas for improvement and increase his/her confidence in order to achieve competence for an Entry-Level Physical Therapist. A student must complete a mid-term and final self- evaluation in order to better discuss progress during the clinical placement with their clinical educator.

Letter grades for clinical courses are assigned by the academic coordinators of clinical education, based on the recommendation of the clinical supervisors. Although each clinical supervisor evaluates a student’s performance, it is the ACCEs who are responsible for determining acceptable levels of performance for each clinical experience and, who ultimately assign a letter grade according to the clinical supervisor’s ratings, comments and a global rating of the student’s performance during the placement.

**Case presentation:** Students are expected to present a 30- to 60- minute evidence-informed presentation to the clinical staff and students present in the clinical site. The presentation may be case-based or on a specific topic of interest approved by the clinical supervisor.

**In order for a final grade to be entered on Minerva students are required to submit the following documents:**

- a. The student’s self-evaluation using the ACP on the clinical education portal.
- b. Complete the student evaluation of fieldwork experience questionnaire found on the clinical education portal.
- c. The student clinical experience booklet (Blue book) must be co-signed by the clinical instructor.



Students are strongly encouraged to make sure the clinical supervisor's final ACP is placed on the clinical education portal.

If the student does not submit all above documents, their grade may be withheld until all documents are submitted.

**Special Requirements for Course Completion and Program Continuation:**

Once a clinical placement has started it cannot be terminated unless there is a university sanctioned reason (health, religious) and approval from the program director. Please refer to the Summer Studies e-calendar for more details.

[https://www.mcgill.ca/study/2018-2019/files/study.2018-2019/summer\\_studies\\_2019\\_ecalendar.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/study/2018-2019/files/study.2018-2019/summer_studies_2019_ecalendar.pdf)

The Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education or their designate has the authority to terminate the clinical course after the midterm evaluation, IF the overall situation or specific student behaviours are judged to be unprofessional, detrimental or unsafe to the student, clinical educator, clinical site or clients. Course termination for these reasons will only be carried out in extreme circumstances and will constitute a course failure ('F' grade).

A failed clinical placement is investigated by the ACCEs with recommendations for remedial work to enhance chances of success in the subsequent, repeated clinical placement. Please refer to the appropriate sections in the graduate calendars on University regulations regarding final and supplemental examinations. Also, please refer to the SPOT website for the Rules and Regulations for Student Evaluation and Promotion. Two failed clinical placements may require a student be asked to withdraw from the program.

**Attendance :** Attendance to all seminars is **mandatory**. Seminars typically take place outside of regularly scheduled class time. All efforts are made to advise students adequately of an upcoming seminar. Students will not be able to miss any of these sessions without a university-sanctioned reason. If they do, they may incur supplemental work. During a clinical placement, absences of more than one day need to be justified with a university-sanctioned reason. All absences need to be made up with additional clinical hours. Students attending their convocation for the BSc Rehabilitation Science (Physical Therapy major) are excused from clinic on the day of the convocation ceremony.

**Dress Code and Deportment:** Students are expected to demonstrate professional behavior, adequate grooming, personal hygiene, and wear appropriate attire at all times.

Professional Code of Conduct is applied during all clinical placements. Specific mention is made of the issue of maintaining client confidentiality.

**Plagiarism/Academic Integrity:** McGill University and the Faculty of Medicine value academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and

consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the [McGill University Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures](#) and the [Faculty of Medicine Code of Conduct](#).

L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le [Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires](#).

**Right to submit in English or French written work that is to be graded:** In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students' Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.

*“Conformément à la Charte des droits de l'étudiant de l'Université McGill, chaque étudiant a le droit de soumettre en français ou en anglais tout travail écrit devant être noté (sauf dans le cas des cours dont l'un des objets est la maîtrise d'une langue).”*

**Disability:** As the instructors of this course we endeavor to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with us and the [Office for Students with Disabilities](#), 514-398-6009.

If accommodations are needed for clinical placements, please refer to the following document on the SPOT website : *OSD process and flowchart for students..*

- The student must communicate this need with the Program Director or Academic Coordinators of Clinical Education at least 4 months prior to the clinical placement start date.
- A meeting will take place between the student, faculty member, and OSD advisor.
- In order to properly plan and implement a clinical placement, the student will need to sign a consent form for relevant information to be communicated with the clinical site.

**Course evaluations:** End-of-course evaluations are one of the ways that McGill works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the student's learning experience. You will be notified by e-mail when the evaluations are available. Please note that a minimum number of responses must be received for results to be available to students.

Additional policies governing academic issues which affect students can be found in the [Academic Rights and Responsibilities](#).

**In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.**