

PHTH 620 PHYSICAL THERAPY CLINICAL PRACTICUM 4 (FALL 2023)

Credits 7

Prerequisites

Successful completion of

- Physical Therapy Clinical Practicum 3 (PHTH 573)
- Second professional complementary course
- Advanced educational and management strategies (POTH 602)
- Promoting Healthy Activity (POTH 682)
- Integrated Pain Management (PHTH 622)

Ongoing Prerequisites

- Complete immunization status.
- Valid First Aid and CPR course certificate, Level HCP (Health Care Provider) or equivalent.
- Solemn Affirmation with the Commissioner of Oaths (report any changes)

Additional prerequisites:

- Basic conversational French language proficiency is necessary to complete clinical practica in a timely manner. All sites have French patients. Some sites require documentation to be completed in French.
- If required, mask fitting will be carried out by the clinical site.
- Some sites may require a criminal record check.

Failure to complete any of the above prerequisites may result the delay or cancellation of the clinical practicum.

Instructors

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Site Clinical Coordinators and Clinical Educators from McGill affiliated clinical institutions provide clinical education support and supervision of students.

Course Description

The fourth clinical practicum takes place as a full-time presence in the clinic, usually 35 hours per week for 8 weeks, in the Fall term of M2. This practicum is the last in a series of four (4) clinical practica, where the student has the opportunity to assess, re-evaluate and treat patients with musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, neurological disorders and complex health conditions across the lifespan and in various practice settings. [The National Physiotherapy Entry-to-Practice Curriculum Guidelines 2019](#) (Clinical Education Experiences) is used to guide the selection of clinical practica in order to ensure that students fulfill the national requirements for entry to practice.

Student Learning Objectives

The Student Learning Objectives are based on the [Competency Profile for Physiotherapist in Canada 2017](#) which defines each of the seven Domains of practice, their essential competencies and entry to practice milestones. The Minimum Skills, outlined in Part B of [The National Physiotherapy Entry-to-Practice Curriculum Guidelines 2019](#), further define the essential competencies and entry-to-practice milestones. These skills represent the minimum level of performance expected at entry-to-practice. During the clinical practicum, 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
Plan, deliver and evaluate programs	1.7.1 – 1.7.4

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

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

Engage in quality improvement activities	4.4.1 – 4.4.3
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
Engage in scholarly enquiry	6.2.1 – 6.2.6
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

The level of performance expected in acquiring essential competencies and entry-to-practice milestones progresses with each clinical practicum. During the fourth and final clinical practicum, a student shall demonstrate a progression in acquiring the essential competencies that reflects a performance progressing from an **advanced intermediate** level at the start of the practicum, to that of **entry-to-practice** or higher in the last 2 weeks of the practicum. These performance levels are defined by the Canadian Physiotherapy Assessment of Clinical Performance (ACP) assessment tool. An exceptional student will achieve the level of **performance with distinction**. For the fourth clinical practicum the following are the three most relevant levels of performance:

Advanced Intermediate Performance

- The student requires clinical supervision less than 25% of the time managing new patients or patients with complex conditions and is independent managing patients with simple conditions.
- The student is consistent and proficient in simple tasks and requires only occasional cueing for comprehensive assessments, interventions, and clinical reasoning.
- The student is capable of maintaining ~75% of a full-time physical therapist's caseload.

Entry-to-Practice Performance

- The student requires infrequent clinical supervision managing patients with simple conditions and minimal guidance/supervision for patients with complex conditions.
- The student consistently performs comprehensive assessments, interventions and clinical reasoning in simple and complex conditions.
- The student consults with others and resolves unfamiliar or ambiguous situations.
- The student is capable of maintaining at minimum 75% of a full-time physical therapist's caseload in a cost-effective manner.

Performance with Distinction

- The student is capable of maintaining 100% of a full-time physical therapist's caseload without clinical supervision or guidance managing patients with simple or complex conditions, and, is able to function in unfamiliar or ambiguous situations.
- In addition, the student demonstrates at least one of the criteria below:
 - The student is consistently proficient at comprehensive assessments, interventions, and clinical reasoning.
 - The student willingly assumes a leadership role for managing patients with more complex conditions or difficult situations.
 - The student is capable of supervising others.
 - The student is capable of serving as a consultant or resource for others.
 - The student actively contributes to the enhancement of the clinical facility or service with an expansive view of physical therapy practice and the profession.

Instructional Method

Clinical supervision is provided by a Clinical Educator who is a licensed Physical Therapist. Clinical Educators are encouraged to use various models of supervision, including the 2:1 model of supervision (2 students to 1 physical therapist) to enhance clinical reasoning through reciprocal peer coaching.

MyCourses (e-Clinical)

All clinical practica and clinical seminars materials will be housed on the e-Clinical, MyCourses online platform. This platform will also be used for student document submissions and important communications related to clinical practica.

Online Modules

Students are encouraged to review modules as needed before or during their clinical practicum. The modules are available at: <https://www.preceptor.ca/>

Clinical Seminars

In preparation for the final clinical practicum, students must attend a 30-minute mandatory individual meeting with the ACCE/AACCEs in the Winter term of M1, and a clinical seminars of 2 hours in the Summer term of M2. Students are expected to review previous practica evaluations and identify competencies that they need to improve upon during the final practicum for entry level practice. Clinical seminars may be delivered on the Zoom web-based platform.

Term	Date	Content
M1, Winter Individual student meetings Mandatory	April/May (30 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review a student's trajectory to meeting the clinical education requirements and plan the final practicum. Discuss the quality of the learning environment/ clinical educator interaction experienced to date during the previous three clinical practica.
M2, Summer Seminar 6: Mandatory	August (2 hours)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible conflict of interest in a final practicum Readiness for entry to practice Early career self-evaluation, continuing professional development, the inspection process (OPPQ)

Clinical Practicum Dates:

Course Number	Dates	Duration	Credits
Clinical Practicum 4 (PHTH 620)	September 5- October 27, 2023	8 weeks (35 hrs/week)	7
Convocation Spring 2024			

The Clinical Practica Sites

The clinical practicum takes place at the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC), other McGill affiliated facilities, such as hospitals, rehabilitation centres, private clinics, and community centres such as Centre Local de Services Communautaires (CLSC), Centre Hospitalier de Soins de Longue Durée (CHSLD), schools, and industry.

Pending approval from the ACCE/AACCEs a maximum of two clinical practica can be completed outside the McGill clinical catchment area.

As of the 2nd clinical practicum, a student may apply to complete their rotation out-of-province. International practica can occur in the third or fourth clinical practica. Travel and accommodations are the student's responsibility. Guidelines and criteria for eligibility are presented during the Winter U3/QY term. Guidelines and application forms are available on MyCourses e-Clinical.

Covid-19 guidelines for learners in a health care setting are provided by the Ministère de Santé et Services Sociaux/ Direction des Affaires Universitaires:

<https://publications.msss.gouv.qc.ca/msss/document-002715/>.

Course Materials

1. MyCourses (e-Clinical): main communication and reference tool for documents required during a clinical practicum.
2. Canadian Physiotherapy Assessment of Clinical Performance (ACP) evaluation tool
3. ACP grading resource
4. Student Clinical Experience Booklet ("blue book")
5. McGill Student 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

Assessments

The Canadian Physiotherapy Assessment of Clinical Performance (ACP), a competency-based assessment tool is used to determine if a student has attained the expectations for each clinical practicum and ultimately is ready to practice. All learning objectives (and therefore all entry-to-practice milestones) are assessed by the ACP 2.0.

The clinical educator will assess the student's performance at midterm using the ACP. The midterm assessment is a formative assessment and provides the student with insight on their strengths and areas to improve during the second half of the practicum. The clinical educator will assess the student's performance at the end of the practicum, this is considered a summative evaluation. The student must also complete a mid-term and final ACP self- evaluation which they will share with their clinical educator and will use to inform discussions regarding their progress in the clinical practicum.

Student presentation: Students are expected to present a 45-minute evidence-informed presentation to the clinical staff and other students present in the clinical site. The presentation may be case-based or on a specific topic of interest approved by the clinical educator.

Assessment	Timing	% of final grade
ACP Clinical Educator Midterm Evaluation	occurs halfway through the practicum	Formative
Student presentation (~45 minutes)	usually occurs in the last 2 weeks of practicum	Assessed as part of the Final Evaluation (competency Scholarly Practitioner)
ACP Clinical Educator Final Evaluation	occurs in the last few days of practicum	*100%

Letter grades

The ACCE/AACCEs are responsible for assigning a letter grade to each clinical practicum. The final grade will be calculated according to the ratings assigned by the clinical educator on each item of the ACP final evaluation (see table below), ***as well as considering the clinical educator's comments regarding student performance for each of the essential competencies, their credit recommendation, and global rating of the student's performance.*** The ACCE/AACCEs may contact the clinical educator if additional information or clarifications are required.

Calculated grade using the ACP rating scale in a fourth practicum:

Student profile	Criteria defining each student profile based on the rating scale of the ACP 2.0
Credit with exceptional performance - student's overall performance is exceptional and exceeds expectations for a student at that experience level (A).	At least 9 items on the ACP are scored at the level of performance with distinction and the remaining items are at the entry to practice level.
Credit with above-average performance - student's overall performance meets the expectations for an average performance. In addition, several competencies indicate performance exceeds the average expectations for the practicum level (A-).	6 to 8 items are scored at distinction and the remaining items are scored at entry level OR 4 to 5 items are scored at distinction, the remaining items are scored at entry level no items are scored below advanced intermediate and the student's overall performance is rated as "above average", "exceptional" or "credit with distinction".
Credit – student's performance meets expectations for a student at that experience level (B+).	9 items are at entry to practice level or higher and the remaining items are scored no more than 1 level below entry level.
Credit with reservation – student's performance is borderline, demonstrating areas of weakness that may require remediation (B-).	9 items are scored at the level of entry to practice and no item is scored below the advanced intermediate level.
No Credit – student consistently performs below the expected level and/or demonstrates significant deficits in professionalism, communication, safety or clinical reasoning (F).	Greater than 9 items are scored lower than the level of entry to practice and one item is scored below advanced intermediate.

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

- a. The student's ACP self-evaluation upload to the clinical education portal.
- b. The student's completed evaluation of fieldwork experience questionnaire found on the clinical education portal.
- c. The student clinical experience booklet (blue book) co-signed by the clinical instructor and submitted to MyCourses: e-Clinical, Assignments.

If the student fails to submit all above documents, their grade may be withheld until all documents are submitted.

A grade of B- in PHTH 620 will be reviewed, by the ACCE/AACCEs, with consideration of student performance in previous practica. ** This review may result in a request for additional clinical hours to be completed in order to ensure acquisition of entry to practice competencies.

A failed clinical practicum is investigated by the ACCE/AACCEs with recommendations for remedial work to enhance chances of success in the subsequent, repeated clinical practicum. 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.
http://www.mcgill.ca/spot/sites/mcgill.ca/spot/files/master_of_science_applied_physical_therapy_rules_and_regulations_2016-17.pdf. Two failed clinical practica may require a student be asked to withdraw from the program.

The ACCE or their delegate 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 clients, student, or staff at a clinical site. Course termination for these reasons will constitute a course failure ('F' grade).

Attendance

Attendance to all seminars is mandatory. During a clinical practicum, **all absences must be made up with additional clinical hours/days**. Absences of more than one day need to be justified with a university-sanctioned reason and supporting documentation.

Once a clinical practicum has started it cannot be terminated unless there is a university sanctioned reason (health, religious, high-level sport) and approval from the program director.

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.

Additional information and McGill policies

Accessibility

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 practica, please refer to the following SPOT website: <https://www.mcgill.ca/spot/programs/ot/bsc-rehabilitation-science/process-mcgills-office-students-disabilities>

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

Policy statement: Language of submission

"In accord with McGill University's [Charter of Student Rights](#), students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French written work that is to be graded. This does not

apply to courses in which acquiring proficiency in a language is one of the objectives.”
(Approved by Senate on 21 January 2009)

“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.” (Énoncé approuvé par le Sénat le 21 janvier 2009)

Policy statement: Academic integrity

“McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the [Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures](#).” (Approved by Senate on 29 January 2003) (See McGill's [guide to academic honesty](#) for more information.)

“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 procédures disciplinaires](#).” (Énoncé approuvé par le Sénat le 29 janvier 2003) (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le [guide pour l'honnêteté académique de McGill](#).)

Copyright of course materials

Instructor generated course materials (e.g., handouts, notes, summaries, etc.) are protected by law and may not be copied or distributed in any form or in any medium without explicit permission of the instructor. Note that infringements of copyright can be subject to follow up by the University under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.

WELL Office

Students have access to the WELL Office that provides both [Academic Support](#) and [Wellness Support](#) to learners from the SPOT, ISoN and SCSD. These services include [Counselling Appointments](#), our [Wellness Curriculum](#) and a variety of resources designed specifically for McGill Health Professional Learners. See website under: <https://www.mcgill.ca/thewelloffice/isonspotscsd>

Technology in class/while on clinical integration courses

Respectful attentive presence is expected; therefore, it is understood that laptops or cell phones are not to be used for social purposes during course times. Cell phones are to be on silent and phone calls should only take place during breaks or after course times. During clinical placements, supervisors may permit students to use the cell phones to communicate with them. If cell phones are used to take pictures or videos for intervention purposes, the patient's written consent is required.

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. An email notification will be sent when the evaluations are available. Please note that a minimum number of responses must be received for results to be available to students.

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

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