

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY - Practice Act Section 34-24-191. Definitions.**

**(a) For the purposes of this article, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed by this section:**

**(9) PHYSICAL THERAPY AIDE. A person trained under the direction of a physical therapist who performs designated and supervised routine tasks related to physical therapy services.**

**700-X-3-.03 (c) Physical Therapy Aide.**

(c) Physical Therapy Aide. The roles and responsibilities of physical therapy aides in physical therapy care are:

(1) To perform ~~assigned patient related support~~ duties (including but not limited to preparation of patient, support or stabilization during treatment, and applying or removing assistive/supportive devices) under the direct on-site supervision of the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant.

(i) The aide may only perform activities that do not require the clinical decision making of the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant.

~~(2) To perform without supervision non-patient related duties (including but not limited to housekeeping, clerical, reception, transporting, transfers and treatment area preparation) prepare patients and area for physical therapy treatment.~~

~~(3) To assist patients in dressing, removing clothing, and applying or removing assistive or supporting devices.~~

~~(4) To support or stabilize patients to assist the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant~~

~~(5) To transport patients.~~

~~(6) To transfer or assist in transfer of patients when appropriate.~~

~~(7) To perform housekeeping duties.~~

~~(8) To perform clerical or reception duties when directed by the physical therapist.~~

~~(9) To assist in performance of routine treatment procedures as delegated and directly supervised (onsite) by the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant:~~

~~(i) The aide may only perform activities that do not require the clinical decision making of the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant.~~

~~(10) To perform designated tasks with the following restrictions:~~

~~(i) The PT or PTA supervising the aide must reassess the patient at the beginning of each treatment session to determine what treatment procedures are appropriate for that treatment session.~~

~~(ii) If modality treatments are to be provided, the PT or PTA supervising the aide must designate the exact location to be treated, the length of treatment, and the parameters of the modality being used.~~

~~(iii) The aide may not perform any hands-on treatment, including, but not limited to, manual resistance exercise, passive range of motion, soft tissue mobilization or joint mobilization. This does not prohibit an aide from assisting licensed personnel in handling a patient when more than one person is needed.~~

~~(iv) If exercise is to be provided, the licensee supervising the aide must be in direct line of sight.~~

~~(11) An aide may perform restorative care on patients discharged from physical therapy.~~

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