

Grading Guide for Clinical Courses

Rating Scale

Beginner Adv beginner Intermediate Adv Intermediate Entry-level Distinction



PHTH 571 (first placement)
Average

PHTH 572
Average

PHTH 573
Average

PHTH 620 (Final placement)
Average

Exceptional performance (A)

All 21 items are scored at least 2 levels above the average for the clinical course.

*Exception for PHTH 620: All 21 items are scored 1 level above the average for the clinical course.

Above average performance (A-)

All 21 items are scored at least at the average for the clinical course AND 11/21 items are scored at least 2 levels above the average for the clinical course.

*Exception for PHTH 620: All 21 items are scored at least at the average for the clinical course AND 11/21 items scored 1 (not 2) level above the average for the clinical course.

Average performance (B+)

All 21 items are scored at least at the average for the clinical course.

Weak performance (B-)

11/21 items are scored at least at the average for the clinical course AND no items are more than 2 levels below the average for the clinical course.

Performance does not meet minimum expectations. (F)

>11/21 items are scored below the average for the clinical course OR any item is > 2 levels below average for the clinical course.

**A grade of B- in PHTH 620 will be reviewed, by the ACCEs, in the context of performance in previous placements. **

**Learning outcomes for physical therapy clinical courses
PHTH 571, 572, 573, 620**

On completion of all four clinical courses, the student will have achieved the following essential competencies.

Expert:

- Evaluate clients with musculoskeletal, neurological, cardio-respiratory disorders or complex health conditions from the perspective of optimal functional performance and social participation.
- Establish a physiotherapy diagnosis.
- Develop & recommend an intervention plan from the perspective of optimal functional performance and social participation.
- Perform interventions adapted to the client's needs, evaluate the effectiveness of the interventions and plan for the discharge or completion of physiotherapy services.

Communicator:

- Use effective communication to develop professional relationships with clients, families, care providers and other stakeholders.

Collaborator:

- Work collaboratively and effectively to promote interprofessional practice and achieve optimal client care.

Manager:

- Manage time, resources, and priorities at all levels for individual practice and to ensure sustainable physiotherapy practice overall.

Advocate:

- Use their knowledge and expertise to promote the health and well-being of individual clients, communities, populations and the profession.

Scholarly Practitioner:

- Improve client outcomes through seeking, creating, applying, disseminating and translating knowledge to physiotherapy practice.

Professional:

- Commit to the best interests of clients and society through ethical practice, support of profession-led regulation, and high personal standards of behaviour.

During each placement period the student is to present an evidenced-based case discussion or presentation to peers and to professional staff members.

Specific Learning Outcomes for PHTH 571 (level 1):

By the end of the first clinical placement, a student shall demonstrate a progression in acquiring the essential competencies that reflect movement from a performance considered at a beginner level to that of advanced beginner.

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

Specific Learning Outcomes for PHTH 572 (level 2):

By the end of the second clinical placement, a student shall demonstrate a progression in acquiring the essential competencies that reflect movement from a performance considered at an advanced beginner level to that of an intermediate level.

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

Specific Learning Outcomes for PHTH 573 (level 3):

By the end of the third clinical placement, a student shall demonstrate a progression in acquiring the essential competencies that reflect movement from a performance considered at an intermediate level to that of an advanced intermediate level.

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

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

Specific Learning Outcomes for PHTH 620 (level 4):

By the end of the fourth and final clinical placement, a student shall demonstrate a progression in acquiring the essential competencies that reflect movement from a performance considered at an advanced intermediate level to that of an entry to practice physiotherapist.

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 Level 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 situations
- 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

Note: Compared to level 3, in clinical practicum 4, students have completed all the course work and have completed an additional professional complementary course in the area of their choice, which includes, advanced pediatrics, sport physiotherapy, or advanced manual therapy.

A Performance with Distinction is described as:

- 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 listed 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

Performance Dimensions	Level 1 PHTH 571	Level 2 PHTH 572	Level 3 PHTH 573	Level 4 PHTH 620
Efficiency/caseload	0 - 25% May begin to share a caseload	~ 50%	75%	75 to 100% Can carry a caseload in a cost-effective manner
Supervision/Guidance required	75% to 100%	50% to 75%	25% to 50%	25% or less

A grade of B- in PHTH 620, will be reviewed, by the ACCEs, in the context of performance in previous placements.