Policies of the University of North Texas Health Science Center	Chapter 07 – Student Affairs, Education and Funding
07.303 SHP – DPT Student Involvement In Clinical Activities	

Policy Statement.

DPT students may not be given responsibility for clinical care that exceeds their capabilities as a student or that violates other legal restrictions. Students may not take the responsibility or place of qualified staff. Involvement in clinical care is permitted only when authorized by the preceptor or faculty member. Assigned clinical care activities should not exceed the student's stage of learning or clinical knowledge. Under no circumstances should assigned activities exceed those which a graduate physical therapist would otherwise be directed to perform. While the program will consider the impact of personal and cultural values, ethics and religious beliefs on students requirements to participate, in no instance will clinical care or the mission of the institution be compromised.

Application of Policy.

All students enrolled in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program program.

Definitions.

1. Clinical Related Activities: Permitted activities include direct clinical care and access to patient care related information under the supervision and direction of a qualified preceptor or faculty member. Under no circumstances is the student permitted to write patient care orders independently.

Procedures and Responsibilities.

Procedure / Duty	Responsible Party
1. Students are required to provide evidence indicating they do not have conditions that would endanger the health and well-being of patients. DPT Students are also expected to take reasonable steps to protect themselves and the safety, confidentiality, and well-being of patients with whom they come into contact with while conducting educational activities in clinical settings.	Students
2. Students must be able to demonstrate that their abilities enable them to meet the health and technical standards policy.	Students
3. Student preceptors may not permit DPT students to perform any clinical service or function without appropriate supervision. Supervision in the clinical setting is defined as the preceptor being physically present or immediately available to provide guidance.	Faculty

4.	After demonstrating proficiency, students may be permitted to undertake additional defined activities while under the appropriate supervision and direction of their assigned preceptor.	Faculty
5.	DPT students are required to complete HIPAA training prior to any patient contact activities. Students may not release confidential patient information to anyone outside of their clinical preceptor or a qualified faculty member.	Student
6.	Students must take all reasonable steps to disclose their status a "physical therapy student" while performing clinical care related activities. Students must wear their UNT Health Science Center identification badge (card) at all times while on clinical practica and while involved in delivering clinical care. Students are required to wear the "short" white lab coat with the UNT Health Science Center DPT patch firmly attached to the breast pocket during all clinical care interactions. It falls upon the student to inform patients or their legal guardians of distinctions between a physical therapy student, a medical student, and a licensed physical therapist, if asked to do so.	Student
7.	In accordance with applicable law, treatment and care will be provided to persons in need without regard to disability, race, creed, color, age, gender, religion or national origin.	Student/Faculty
8.	Under some circumstances concerning environmental and chemical exposures, the student may be asked to make an informed decision concerning continued participation in the curriculum.	Student

References and Cross-references.

Forms and Tools.

Approved: August 2010

Effective: August 2010

Revised: