

Designated Learning Experiences

The LSUHSC Neurologic Residency program consists of various learning opportunities including mentored clinical practice, observation opportunities in specialty clinics, mentored development of teaching skills, continuing education, guided self-study, and didactic courses.

Upon entering the program, the residents will participate in orientation including discussion of learning preferences, evaluation of personal goals, and taking initial assessments. In the first month the residents will be observed completing a patient evaluation. The program faculty will then use all of this information to *personalize the residency experience* to each resident's needs and personal goals.

The residents will treat in the faculty clinic throughout the entire program. The resident's clinical practice will be mentored throughout the program based on the specific learning needs of the resident. The residents will also attend physician Neurology and Neurosurgery rounds throughout the program where they will represent the clinic and the profession, making recommendations for referral to physical therapy or other allied health services.

There are six didactic courses. Didactic work begins in the fall semester with the **Neuroanatomy** course and **Examination, Evaluation, and Effective Intervention for Neurologic Conditions (EEE)**. The neuroanatomy course provides residents with a deeper exploration of neuroanatomy for a better understanding of nervous system function and disorders. EEE will emphasize movement impairments, outcome measures, and procedural interventions based on both the science of motor control, and current evidence.

There are three courses that span the length of the residency program. These are **Teaching and Learning in Neurologic Physical Therapy, Clinical Decision Making and Evidence Based Practice (CDM/EBP)**, and **Skills Labs for Neurologic Physical Therapy**. The Teaching and Learning course provides an array of experiences for the residents to enhance their understanding of teaching theory and teach in our DPT program. The residents will also act as clinical instructors for interns and become APTA Credentialed Clinical Instructors. The CDM/EBP course provides opportunity for comprehensive application of evidence-based practice. Residents will review clinical practice guidelines, practice evidence appraisal, participate in journal clubs, and prepare a research poster for submission. Skills Labs provide hands-on learning of various techniques, interventions, and assessments. Skills lab also includes "*Freestyle Fridays*". Freestyle Fridays are protected time for the residents and mentors that can be personalized to the weekly needs of the residents and may include activities such as team discussion of patient cases, skills practice, or patient workshops.

The residents will complete the **Advanced Neurologic Physical Therapy** course in the spring and summer semesters. This course offers residents the opportunity to apply the knowledge gained throughout the residency by participating in challenging discussions with residency faculty on various topics. In the spring semester residents have an opportunity to attend the American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting or the Academy of Neurologic Physical Therapy Annual Conference.

Prior to completion of the residency year, the residents will complete follow-up self-assessments, receive a final grade on a patient examination, and reflect on their experience and growth through the year.