Designated Learning Experiences

The LSUHS 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.

The residency curriculum combines nationally recognized neurologic physical therapy educational programs with in-house instruction and mentored laboratory experiences to provide a comprehensive learning experience across the residency year. Residents participate in the Neurologic Physical Therapy Professional Education Consortium (Neuroconsortium), which serves as the primary didactic component of the program and includes live webinars, on-demand coursework, and journal clubs led by nationally recognized neurologic rehabilitation experts. Topics span neuroplasticity, motor control and motor learning, differential diagnosis, gait analysis, vestibular rehabilitation, Parkinson disease, spinal cord injury, concussion management, technology-enhanced neurorehabilitation, and many other contemporary neurologic practice areas. Residents also complete selected evidence-based educational modules through the Academy of Neurologic Physical Therapy (ANPT) Education Center and attend the APTA Combined Sections Meeting (CSM), providing additional exposure to current research, clinical practice guidelines, and emerging trends in neurologic rehabilitation.

In-house instruction complements these external educational experiences and is tailored to the resident's individual learning needs. Neuroanatomy modules provide advanced study of neuroanatomical structures and pathways through self-directed learning, laboratory activities, and teaching experiences within the entry-level DPT program. Diagnosis-specific modules emphasize examination, evaluation, movement analysis, outcome measures, pharmacology, and evidence-based management of a wide range of neurologic conditions through case-based learning and clinical problem

solving. Additional instructional offerings address specialized practice topics such as orthotics and prosthetics, multidisciplinary neurorehabilitation, research methods, literature appraisal, and community resources. Teaching and learning modules provide opportunities for residents to develop educational and clinical instruction skills through classroom teaching, mentorship, and supervision of DPT students, including completion of the APTA Level 1 Credentialed Clinical Instructor Program. Throughout the residency, residents also participate in weekly Skills Labs (“Freestyle Fridays”), which provide protected time for hands-on practice, patient case discussions, advanced assessment and intervention training, and individualized mentoring designed to address the resident’s evolving clinical needs.

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.