

GEORGE P. FISCHER, PT, DPT

Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

St. Luke's University Health Network

Neurologic Physical Therapy Residency Program

June 2023 – Current

DeSales University

Doctor of Physical Therapy

Center Valley, PA

Research topic: Utilization of the FSS-ICU to assess hospital discharge location.

September 2017 – August 2020

Bachelor of Science, Sport & Exercise Physiology – Minors: Biomechanics, Psychology

August 2013 – May 2017

Research topic: The differences in exertion and fatigue of male endurance athletes consuming two different Gatorade pre-workout supplements.

PUBLICATIONS

FSS-ICU Scores at ICU Discharge Differ Across Postacute Care Dispositions

Manuscript accepted June 2021

Journal of Acute Care Physical Therapy DOI: 10.1097/JAT.0000000000000177

- Presented at the 2019 DeSales DPT Research Symposium
- Presented at the 2019 Pennsylvania Physical Therapy Association Conference

PHYSICAL THERAPIST CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

SLUHN University Hospital Bethlehem – Inpatient Acute Rehabilitation Center (ARC)

Bethlehem, PA

Neurologic Physical Therapy Resident

June 2023 – Current

- Evaluating and treating medically complex patient populations with orthopedic, cardiovascular, and neurologic diagnoses with primary focus of improving patient mobility and independence for the most optimal hospital discharge disposition possible.
- Maintaining intra- and interprofessional communications with all hospital staff to maximize patient outcomes while facilitating the transition of care from the inpatient setting to a St. Luke's outpatient neurologic specialty setting where applicable.

SLUHN Rehabilitation 8th Avenue – Outpatient Neurologic Physical Therapist, Full Time

Bethlehem, PA

May 2021 – Current

- Currently a practicing physical therapist in St. Luke's outpatient neurologic setting serving patients living with neurodegenerative conditions, recovering from cerebrovascular accident, suffering from vestibular pathology, recovering from concussion, and recovering following limb loss.
- Leading 8th Avenue's Seating and Mobility Clinic involved in evaluating and advocating for patients that would benefit from a mobility device including a custom manual wheelchair, power wheelchair, or power scooter. Responsible for communicating with outside equipment vendors and assistive technology professionals to complete evaluations as well as draft and submit letters of medical necessity advocating on the patient's behalf.
- Routinely communicating interprofessionally with certified prosthetists/orthotists and physiatry teams for development of lower extremity bracing for patients living with hypertonicity and spasticity.
- Assisting with physical therapy student clinical development, volunteer onboarding, and student shadowing experiences for relevant professional development.
- Assisting with clinic administrative duties including review of daily records of interventions between physical and occupational therapies, adherence to billing modifiers, analysis of referral sources, and implementing solutions to improve clinic productivity.

SLUHN Rehabilitation – Outpatient Neurologic/Orthopedic Float Physical Therapist, Full Time

November 2020 – May 2021

- Participated as a member of the St. Luke's rehabilitative team serving both neurologic and orthopedic populations in the outpatient setting.
- Maintained a passionate treatment approach based upon current research evidence, SLUHN rehabilitative protocols, current clinical experience, and patient needs/personal goals to create and implement the most comprehensive care plans possible.
- Practiced flexibility, accommodation, and accountability to schedule changes in order to fill in where needed and facilitate the continuation of excellent patient care over the course of their St. Luke's rehabilitative experience.

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY STUDENT CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

SLUHN Rehabilitation – Eighth Avenue – Outpatient Neurological Rehab

Bethlehem, PA

Clinical Rotation - 12 weeks

June 2020 – August 2020

- Evaluated and treated patients with a wide variety of neurologic diagnoses with an emphasis on focusing care around a patient's person as a whole.
- Gained specialized experience working with patients with limb loss and varying lower extremity prosthetic devices and manufacturers.
- Aimed to maximize patient self-efficacy through unique treatment interventions and learning opportunities for the discovery of true rehabilitative potential.
- Developed an appreciation for the continuum of care between St. Luke's Inpatient Acute Rehabilitation Center (ARC) and subsequent outpatient rehabilitation.

LVHN Rehabilitation Services – Palmer Township – Outpatient Neurologic and Orthopedic Rehab

Easton, PA

Clinical Rotation - 2 weeks

March 2 – March 13 2020

- Originally a 10-week clinical experience. Ended prematurely due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Evaluated and treated a large range of patient populations with neurologic and orthopedic diagnoses in the outpatient clinical setting as part of a township health center.
- Designed and implemented comprehensive patient care plans considering the nature of a patient's diagnosis, their previous and current functional status, and their personal goals they would like to accomplish.
- Contributed to facilitating inter-professional communication across occupational and speech therapy professions for patients requiring multiple disciplines of care.
- Gained experience objectively assessing patients utilizing technological systems such as Frenzel goggles, the Biodex Balance System, and the NeuroCom Balance Master.

SLUHN University Hospital Bethlehem – Inpatient Acute Rehabilitation Center (ARC)

Bethlehem, PA

Clinical Rotation - 8 weeks

October 2019 – December 2019

- Evaluated and treated a large range of medically complex patient populations with orthopedic, cardiovascular, and neurologic diagnoses.
- Devised and implemented creative patient interventions specific to their functional impairments with consideration of their intake diagnoses, comorbidities, and psychosocial factors.
- Participated in inter-professional patient treatment interventions and contributed during healthcare team meetings to assist in identifying patient barriers to safe discharge, discharge disposition, and ongoing patient needs.
- Gained experience in utilizing Epic inpatient documentation software and ongoing patient functional assessment via the Continuity Assessment Record and Evaluation (CARE) model.

LVHN Rehabilitation Services – 1250 Cedar Crest – Outpatient Orthopedic Rehab

Allentown, PA

Clinical Rotation- 6 weeks

August 2018 – September 2018

- Evaluated and treated diagnoses with a strong focus on general orthopedics, sports medicine, and pre-/post-surgical rehabilitation.
- Employed a range of treatment interventions including exercise programming, manual therapy, modalities, and patient education.
- Systematically implemented various outcome measures to track patient progress.
- Gained experience in utilizing Epic outpatient documentation software.

DeSales University Pro Bono Experiences**Allentown, Sellersville, Center Valley, Souderton PA***Student Physical Therapist**June 2018 – September 2019*

- Completed faculty-mentored pro bono clinical experiences for orthopedic, pediatric, neurologic, and geriatric populations.
- Worked with patients, peers, and faculty to develop comprehensive plans of care relative to client impairments and clinical diagnoses.
- Presented grand rounds and case study-style presentations on client evaluation, interventions, and discharge.

Kessler Rehabilitation – Outpatient Orthopedic Rehab**Bedminster, NJ***Undergraduate Internship**May 2016 – August 2016*

- Completed a 136-hour observational internship at an orthopedic clinic with exposure to initial evaluations, McKenzie methodology, one-on-one treatment technique, hand physical and occupational therapy, office management, and clinic maintenance.

Bridgeway Senior Healthcare, Kessler – Inpatient Sub-Acute Rehab**Bridgewater, NJ***Undergraduate Internship**May 2015 – August 2015*

- Completed a 136-hour observational internship at a sub-acute rehabilitation clinic with exposure to initial evaluations, inpatient care for orthopedic, neurological, and cardiovascular populations, and inpatient facility management.

CERTIFICATIONS & SKILLSETS

Amputee Mentorship Experience

*May 2022 – July 2022**Dr. Vanessa Gogates, PT, DPT, NCS*

SLUHN Concussion Provider Competency

May 2021

American Heart Association Basic Life Support (CPR and AED)

Expiration: October 2024

MEMBERSHIP**American Physical Therapy Association Clinician Member***Current**Academy of Neurologic Physical Therapy Member**Current***American Physical Therapy Association Student Member***2017 – 2020*

SERVICE EXPERIENCE**DeSales University Chapter of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul****Center Valley, PA***Conferential Student Ambassador**October 2019 – August 2020*

- Served the DeSales University Community in any possible capacity that was needed via physical assistance, fund-raising, and access to resources focused on providing the basic necessities of life.

Pre-PT 3+3 Subcommittee – DPTSA**Center Valley, PA***2nd and 3rd Year Subcommittee Leader**October 2018 – August 2020*

- Developed and proposed an outline for subcommittee activities to facilitate camaraderie between graduate and undergraduate cohorts of the DeSales DPT Program.

Peers Advance Student Success (PASS)**Center Valley, PA***Student Mentor**Fall 2018 – August 2020*

- Served as a mentor for a student beginning their DeSales DPT education and for the entirety of their student career.

Doctor of Physical Therapy Student Association (DPTSA)**Center Valley, PA***APTA Class Representative**Fall 2017 – August 2020*

- Served as the liaison between the latest APTA occurrences and the DeSales DPT student cohort, circulating information that included annual Pennsylvania Physical Association district meetings and national meetings.

DeSales University Academic Affairs Graduate Studies Committee (AAGSC)**Center Valley, PA***DPT Program Student Representative**September 2017 – January 2018*

- Provided opinion and consultation to the AAGSC from a student perspective in the DeSales DPT program regarding academic, socioeconomic, and cultural concerns.

AWARDS

St. Luke's Trauma Team Hero Honoree

2023

DeSales University Exercise is Medicine Award

2017

Superlative Research Poster Presentation & Topic

2015 North Atlantic Regional Meeting of ASEP

DeSales University Undergraduate Dean's List

2014 – 2017

National Honor Society Membership

Inducted 2012