



# NEUROLOGIC PHYSICAL THERAPY RESIDENCY FACT SHEET

## **PROGRAM PURPOSE:**

### ***Our Mission***

The mission of the Residency Programs in the Division of Physical Therapy and UNC Hospitals is to provide superior, advanced specialist training and mentorship to licensed clinicians to meet the health and wellness needs of the people of North Carolina. For the neurologic residency, this mission is applied to physical therapists and their work with patients with neurologic conditions.

### ***Resident Program Philosophy***

The faculty and staff of the Division of Physical Therapy and UNC Hospitals are committed to developing residents who are recognized leaders within their specialty area of choice. Residents will develop excellence in examination, diagnosis, intervention, consultation, teaching and the integration of best evidence into the patient care they provide within their specialty area. They will develop as a resource for the community in intervention for neurologic conditions and will contribute to the profession through teaching, writing and service. In addition to clinical practice, mentored experiences in entry-level and clinical teaching will be integrated into the neurologic residency. Graduates of the residency program will be prepared to sit for the ABPTS Neurologic Clinical Specialist (NCS) examination.

## **MENTORSHIP:**

You will learn from mentors with exceptional experience and who are experts in their specific areas of interest. Mentored time ranges from 4-8 hours per week, but may be adjusted depending on the focus for each week. This one-on-one learning with real patients under the guidance of clinical experts is the foundation of the program. Individualized feedback is provided at each mentored session. The mentors include the following experienced individuals:

Elizabeth "Dietra" Buxton, PT, DPT  
Audrey Czejkowski, PT, DPT\*  
Heidi Greata, PT, DPT  
Sharon Kemps, PT, DPT, ATP\*  
Bryn Kennedy, PT, DPT  
Caitlin Laemmle, PT, DPT

Courtney Matrunick, PT, DPT  
Karen McCulloch, PT, PhD, MS, FAPTA#  
Vicki Mercer, PT, PhD  
Patrick Moseley, PT, DPT  
Rachel Schaal-Wilson, PT, DPT

\* Board-certified clinical specialist in neurologic physical therapy, #Board-certified emerita

## **CURRICULUM:**

The program's curriculum is designed to address all areas of the Neurologic Description of Specialty Practice (DSP). Online MedBridge courses developed for neurologic residents by national level subject matter experts and face to face instruction by mentors provide the majority of didactic instruction. Journal clubs and independent study related to teaching and projects facilitate further development. Residents have multiple practical teaching opportunities with entry-level students, in face-to-face and online courses. The program is structured around a resident professional development plan that is devised during the first month of the residency, allowing for personalized objectives in areas of interest. Monthly review meetings assure that progress toward desired goals occurs as expected, planning experiences that meet the unique needs of each resident. Written assignments, case reports developed for teaching and self-assessments provide the resident with regular benchmarks to ensure their learning progresses throughout the year.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

The core requirements of the residency program include: 1500 hours of clinical practice (inpatient vs outpatient clinics depending on resident track), in addition to at least 150 hours of mentored clinical time with mentorship in acute, inpatient rehabilitation, and outpatient practice; 300 hours of didactic activities; and at least 12 hours of community service. In addition, residents must successfully complete assignments, 2 live patient exams, and 2 written exams during the program.

**RESIDENT SCHEDULE:**

Residents will practice in clinic for 30 hours per week. The residents will also have mentored clinic work, didactic activities and other learning activities each week. Given the scope of residency learning opportunities, residents should expect to spend 45-50 hours per week completing activities related to the program. The schedules below provides an idea of what a typical week might look like, however, the exact schedule will vary to align with mentor schedules and some required activities are not reflected here (see 'Other Activities' below).

Outpatient track example:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8-12 CRC Work	8-12 UPT Work	8-12 CRC Work	8-12 Mentor Time	8-12 CRC Work
1-5 Focused Time/ Teaching	1-5 UPT Work	1-6 CRC Work	1-5 Mentor Time	1-6 CRC Work

Inpatient track example:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7-12 Rehab Work	7-12 Rehab Work		8-12 Mentor Time	7-12 Rehab Work
1-5:30 Rehab Work	1-5:30 Rehab Work	1-5 Focused Time/ Teaching	1-5 Mentor Time	1-5:30 Rehab Work

**Didactic Time:** This is academic learning time completed by the resident outside of clinic time, which includes online and self-study modules (readings and evidence analysis), mentor/resident discussions, and psychomotor learning activities. Mentors plan, administer, and evaluate didactic learning activities.

**Mentored Time:** This is clinical learning time in which a mentor and resident are seeing patients together. The resident is typically leading the patient care with guidance from the mentor and post-care discussions.

**Focused Time:** This is learning time in which the resident participates in activities such as shadowing other medical professionals (i.e. audiologist) or assisting with teaching in the DPT program.

**Other Activities:** The residents will be required to develop, write and present patient case reports based on patients seen during clinic work. The residents will also participate in community service activities.

**SALARY, TUITION AND BENEFITS:**

Residents are paid a competitive salary with full benefit package through GME (including health insurance and dental insurance). Residents receive 108 hours of Paid Time Off per year for vacation and holidays, and 48 hours of sick time. There is no tuition associated with the program.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Applicants must have US citizenship and a NC PT licensure prior to matriculation to allow credentialing to occur prior to the start of the residency. New graduates are eligible to apply and must successfully complete the July licensure exam in order to be considered for admission. Completion of immunization requirements, HIPAA, OSHA, and CPR training prior to matriculation is required.

**APPLICATION AND ENROLLMENT:**

**Application deadline: end of December**

Application and specific date available via RF-PTCAS: <https://rfptcas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>

**On campus interviews** for selected candidates: February, by invitation

**Program Start Date:** typically mid September each year, and lasting 55 weeks (overlap with following resident for 3 weeks, allowing a role in orientation and transitioning patient load to new resident).

**For more information visit:** <https://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/physical/academic-programs/residencies/neurological-residency-program/>

**Do you have questions about our program?** Please contact Kristel Maes via email at [clinicaledreq@unchealth.unc.edu](mailto:clinicaledreq@unchealth.unc.edu)