

Certificate in Advanced Practice in Pediatric Rehabilitation



Program Overview

This program is designed for physical therapists and occupational therapists who wish to participate in advanced study in pediatric rehabilitation including early intervention, school-based therapy or other pediatric services. The program will offer practitioners the opportunity to enhance their comprehension of family and client-centered practice in a diversity of settings. The curriculum consists of three graduate level courses, offered in a convenient online format with the option to add additional coursework. The program offers PTs the opportunity and resources to prepare for specialty certification (PCS) through the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties (ABPTS).

Program Mission

To prepare occupational therapists and physical therapists with the advanced skills and knowledge to develop expertise in the field of pediatric rehabilitation. The program strives to promote academic excellence, evidence-based practice, clinical competence, and life-long learning.

Program Features: The Drexel Difference!

- Internationally known faculty members
- Over a 30 year history of teaching, research, and service in pediatrics
- 3 graduate courses convenient for part-time study and can be completed in one year
- Coursework infused with the latest technology for online interaction
- Premier teaching facilities in a dynamic learning environment
- Coursework may be applied to other degree programs

Course Credit May Be Applied to a Degree

After successfully completing the 3 courses, students will receive a post-professional certificate of completion. The credits may be applied to other degrees offered within the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences, including a Master of Health Science (MHS) in Rehabilitation Sciences for occupational therapists and a Post-Professional Doctor of Physical Therapy (PPDPT) for physical therapists with either an entry-level baccalaureate or masters degree in physical therapy. There is also a PhD Program in Rehabilitation Sciences for both occupational and physical therapists. Previous students have transferred credits from the certificate program to degree programs at other universities, usually as elective credits.

Learning Experiences

The majority of the curriculum will be delivered via web-based tools that allow for a dynamic interactive learning environment. The program is infused with the latest technology for distance learning, and students will participate in class discussions through discussion boards and "live" classroom sessions in real time. Drexel University resources, including the libraries, are easy to navigate via a distance format. The program is designed for part-time study so students should be able to maintain their current work schedules and other personal obligations.



Apply online at:
<http://www.drexel.edu/em/apply/cnhp/>

Send supporting documents to:
Drexel University
Application Processing
P.O. Box 34789
Philadelphia PA, 19101

For more information contact:
Allison Schukar
Admissions Coordinator
215-762-8852
ptadmissions@drexel.edu

<http://www.drexel.edu/physicalTherapy/>

Program Faculty

Program Director

Jane Fedorczyk, PT, PhD, CHT, ATC, Associate Clinical Professor, Director of Post-Professional Clinical Programs



Margaret E. (Maggie) O'Neil PT, PhD, MPH, Associate Professor

Dr. O'Neil received her PhD from Drexel University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Boston University. She is a child health and rehabilitation researcher with a focus on improving health behaviors, especially physical

activity levels, in children who are overweight/obese and those with disabilities such as cerebral palsy. Her areas of teaching expertise are in pediatric neurorehabilitation, fitness and health promotion; clinical measures and research design; and health services and health policy. She has a secondary appointment in the School of Public Health and teaches in the Department of Health Management and Policy. She is active in the APTA Section on Pediatrics Research Committee and an active member in the Section of Maternal and Child Health in the American Public Health Association.



Lisa Chiarello, PT, PhD, PCS, Associate Professor

Dr. Chiarello received her doctoral degree from Hahnemann University. She has served the APTA Section on Pediatrics as the Region IV Director and Chair of the Nominating and Practice Committees and is currently Vice Chair of the Practice Committee and Early Intervention

Special Interest Group. Dr. Chiarello practices, teaches, and conducts research in the areas of early intervention, family-centered care, and participation of children with physical disabilities. Dr. Chiarello serves as course director for the Pediatric Decision Making and Pediatric Clinical Application courses.



Maria Benedetto, PT, DPT, PCS, Associate Clinical Professor

Dr. Benedetto practices as a pediatric physical therapist and has over 30 years of clinical experience. Her teaching and research include motor control & learning. Current research involves a clinical assessment tool for obstacle navigation and balance for children, the Timed Obstacle Ambulation Test (TOAT). She serves as a member of the APTA Section on Pediatrics Practice Committee, and chairs the sub-committee for intensity of services for pediatric physical therapy in an outpatient setting.



Margo Orlin, PT, PhD, Associate Professor

Dr. Orlin received her PhD from Drexel University. She is an experienced pediatric clinician, educator and researcher. Dr. Orlin is currently funded by the three-year 2007 Ethel and Jack Hausman Clinical Research Scholars Award to study running in children with cerebral palsy. She has a Scientific

Staff appointment at Shriners Hospitals for Children in Philadelphia where she conducts her research. She is the chair of the Communications Committee for the APTA Section on Pediatrics and serves on the Board of Directors of the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Philadelphia and Vicinity.



Robert Palisano, PT, ScD, Professor

Dr. Palisano is a pediatric physical therapist, educator and researcher. He is Co-Editor of the journal Physical & Occupational Therapy in Pediatrics and Associate Editor of the textbook Physical Therapy for Children. Dr. Palisano is an investigator, CanChild Centre for Childhood

Disability Research. His current research involves activity and participation of children and youth with disabilities.

Advanced Practice in Pediatric Rehabilitation Curriculum

PTRS 760 Pediatric Decision Making (4 credits)	PTRS 761 Pediatric Clinical Application (4 credits)	PTRS 740 Issues in Pediatric Health & Rehab (4 credits)	PTRS 772 Selected Topics in Pediatrics (1-3 credits)	PTRS 773 Seminar in Pediatrics (4 credits)
The course focuses on evidence-based examination and intervention of children with disabilities within the context of child, family, and environmental factors. The course highlights the role of physical therapists in promoting the status of the neuromuscular and musculoskeletal systems. The importance of family-centered care, parent-child interactions, and play is explored.	This course emphasizes clinical decision making related to the components of physical therapy management. The course uses a problem-based format with complex patient cases serving as the basis for the development of student learning issues. Students explore community and professional resources and apply course material to pediatric physical therapy practice.	The course addresses contemporary issues including health, prevention and rehabilitation, services and outcomes for children, youth and families. Key themes are participation, self determination and advocacy. Materials addressing intervention, service delivery models and care across the life span, leadership, innovation and knowledge translation are integrated.	This course is designed to provide the opportunity for advanced content and discussion regarding issues facing the pediatric practitioner. The course is designed to address current issues related to practice in various pediatric settings. Topics will be introduced and content delivered, but the emphasis will be on student/instructor interaction and discussion. For physical therapists this will guide preparation and study for the Pediatric Specialist exam.	Supported by faculty and expert practitioners, this course will expose students to current guidelines and evidence related to pediatric community-based physical therapy practice. The seminar will emphasize the role of the therapist in school-based practice. Advocacy for self determination, inclusion and services in a child's natural environment will be explored.

Three of five courses for a total of 12 credits are required to complete the certificate program.