



**College of Health Professions  
Department of Physical Therapy  
Residency in Neurologic Physical Therapy**

***Professional Responsibilities Associated with the Residency in Neurologic Physical Therapy***

The physical therapist (resident) will engage in full-time direct patient care in a variety of settings at the Shepherd Center. The didactic program is delivered in a hybrid model via the Neurologic Physical Therapy Professional Education Consortium Webinars and direct teaching. A minimum of 150 hours of one-to-one clinical mentoring will be provided by a board-certified clinical specialist. The residency program also includes a core curriculum consisting of an intraprofessional foundational course, teaching Mercer Doctor of Physical Therapy students, engaging in service-learning activities, and self-directed learning in assigned and individually selected topics. Additionally, the neurologic physical therapy resident will engage in established and/or developing clinical research activities, case studies, or case series with an anticipated dissemination product. The resident should expect a total workload of 50-60 hours per week. Membership in the American Physical Therapy Association and the Academy of Neurologic Physical Therapy is required.

**Delivery Model of Didactic/Laboratory Components of the Program**

The Residency is divided into four Blocks. The resident's clinical rotations include units on spinal cord injury, acquired brain injury, vestibular/balance disorders, and neuromuscular diseases. The resident receives both formative feedback and summative feedback during each Block. Residents will have two performance examinations on live patients along with quizzes, mid-term and final examinations.

The didactic coursework is primarily delivered at the Shepherd Center through direct instruction, and enhanced by the Neurologic Physical Therapy Professional Education Consortium Webinars.

The neurologic resident may participate in two orthopaedic residency on-campus, weekend intensives. They typically are held on Friday from 1:00-6:30pm and Saturday 8:00am-6:30pm. Mercer Orthopaedic Residency faculty and fellows-in-training teach these courses. Additionally,

the neurologic resident will participate in two grand rounds discussions with the orthopaedic and cardiovascular and pulmonary residents. These are held on-campus. The neurologic resident may also participate in the Myofascial Pain and Dysfunction: TrP Dry Needling course.

### ***Residency in Neurologic Physical Therapy Curriculum***

Clinical Practice Hours	1500 hours (Minimum)
Clinical Mentoring Hours 1:1	125 hours (Minimum)

<b><u>Didactic/ Clinical Skills Courses</u></b>	<b><u>Contact Hours</u></b>
<b>Foundations of Advanced Clinical Practice</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Foundations of Neurologic Physical Therapy</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Neurologic Examination, Evaluation and Management: Spinal Cord Injury</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Neurologic Examination, Evaluation and Management: Acquired Brain Injury</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Neurologic Examination, Evaluation and Management: Neuromuscular Diseases</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Neurologic Examination, Evaluation and Management: Balance and Vestibular</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Myofascial Pain and Dysfunction: TrP Dry Needling (optional)</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Practice Management/Health Care Policy and Professional Issues</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Clinical Instructor Credentialing</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Self-Directed Learning - Independent Study Courses</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Teaching Entry-Level DPT Students</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Service-Learning</b>	<b>30</b>

There are a minimum of 345 total hours of scheduled classroom (didactic and laboratory) learning experiences. Teaching 30 hours in the DPT curriculum, and engagement in service-learning activities for 30 hours are approved and scheduled through the Program Coordinator at the Shepherd Center and neurologic physical therapy faculty at Mercer University.

Residents must demonstrate mastery (80%) on written mid-term and final examinations, several quizzes, and two practical examinations on current patients.

Additionally, Residents are also required to engage in a research project, case study or case series, or other scholarly pursuits to add to the body of physical therapy knowledge.

The total minimum number of hours in the residency program is 1970 hours.