

# Florida Physical Therapy Jurisprudence Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

- 1. What is the consequence of failing to obtain full continuing education hours during a renewal cycle?**
  - A. A \$10,000 fine for false claims**
  - B. Requirement to complete hours within 30 days**
  - C. Fine amount dependent on hours not completed**
  - D. No fine if hours are completed later**
- 2. A physical therapy aide is allowed to participate in which of the following documentation activities?**
  - A. Evaluating progress towards established goals**
  - B. Interpreting objective findings in a reevaluation**
  - C. Recording interventions performed during treatment**
  - D. Altering the established plan of care**
- 3. To maintain an active license, a physical therapist must accrue how many hours of continuing education in a given renewal cycle?**
  - A. 20 hours**
  - B. 30 hours**
  - C. 40 hours**
  - D. 50 hours**
- 4. How many years does a licensee have to file an administrative complaint for general incidents, not related to impairment?**
  - A. 3 years**
  - B. 5 years**
  - C. 6 years**
  - D. 10 years**
- 5. What is a method by which an inactive licensee can receive an active license without completing continuing education requirements?**
  - A. Taking and passing the national examination**
  - B. Completing a state-specific education program**
  - C. Participating in volunteer clinical work**
  - D. Obtaining a temporary work permit**

- 6. Which of the following is an essential requirement for a temporary permit in physical therapy practice?**
- A. Daily supervision of the therapist**
  - B. Active involvement of a physician**
  - C. On-site presence of the supervising physical therapist**
  - D. Minimum experience of six months**
- 7. A physical therapist assistant performing patient-related activities for which of the following practitioners requires on-site supervision by a physical therapist?**
- A. Orthopedic physician**
  - B. Physiatrist**
  - C. Chiropractor**
  - D. Podiatrist**
- 8. An unlicensed personnel claiming to be a physical therapist assistant is guilty of which crime?**
- A. Misdemeanor with a maximum of a \$5,000 fine**
  - B. Misdemeanor with a maximum of one year imprisonment**
  - C. Felony with a maximum of a \$5,000 fine**
  - D. Felony with a maximum of one year imprisonment**
- 9. What is the primary focus of the continuing education requirements regarding HIV/AIDS for initial licensure?**
- A. Understanding legal frameworks**
  - B. Clinical practice methods**
  - C. Infection control procedures**
  - D. Recent research findings**
- 10. In order to lawfully recommend a personal trainer, what must a licensee provide to the patient?**
- A. A written disclosure including multiple trainer options**
  - B. A verbal agreement confirming the recommendation**
  - C. A list of gym membership fees**
  - D. A contract for personal training services**

## **Answers**

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1. C
2. C
3. B
4. C
5. A
6. C
7. D
8. B
9. C
10. A

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What is the consequence of failing to obtain full continuing education hours during a renewal cycle?**

- A. A \$10,000 fine for false claims**
- B. Requirement to complete hours within 30 days**
- C. Fine amount dependent on hours not completed**
- D. No fine if hours are completed later**

The correct answer reflects the importance of fulfilling the continuing education requirements that are mandated for physical therapists in Florida. When physical therapists do not complete the required continuing education hours during a renewal cycle, they may face a fine that varies based on the number of hours that were missed. This system is designed to encourage compliance with educational requirements, ensuring that practitioners remain knowledgeable and up-to-date in their field. Continuing education is a vital component of maintaining licensure, as it ensures that professionals keep abreast of the latest practices, techniques, and regulations. The imposition of fines allows regulatory bodies to enforce these requirements and uphold the integrity of the profession. In contrast to other options, the varying fine amount based on hours not completed directly ties the penalty to the specific shortfall in educational engagement, rather than providing a more generalized response or additional grace periods without consequence. This establishes a direct accountability mechanism for physical therapists to adhere to professional development standards.

**2. A physical therapy aide is allowed to participate in which of the following documentation activities?**

- A. Evaluating progress towards established goals**
- B. Interpreting objective findings in a reevaluation**
- C. Recording interventions performed during treatment**
- D. Altering the established plan of care**

The correct answer highlights that a physical therapy aide is permitted to engage in documentation activities such as recording the interventions performed during treatment. This task is appropriate for an aide because it involves noting the activities and techniques that were carried out under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist. Documentation is a vital part of patient care, and accurately recording the interventions ensures continuity, effectiveness, and accountability in the treatment process. By documenting interventions, the aide contributes valuable information that can be reviewed by the supervising physical therapist. However, this role does not extend to evaluative or interpretative tasks, such as assessing progress towards established goals or interpreting objective findings, which require the clinical judgment and expertise of a licensed practitioner. Similarly, altering the established plan of care is a responsibility that falls solely within the scope of a licensed physical therapist, as it involves making clinical decisions based on a comprehensive understanding of the patient's condition and treatment objectives.

**3. To maintain an active license, a physical therapist must accrue how many hours of continuing education in a given renewal cycle?**

**A. 20 hours**

**B. 30 hours**

**C. 40 hours**

**D. 50 hours**

Physical therapists in Florida are required to complete 30 hours of continuing education during each licensing renewal cycle to maintain an active license. This requirement is established to ensure that practitioners stay updated on the latest advancements in medical knowledge, techniques, and practices that impact patient care. By engaging in ongoing education, physical therapists can enhance their skills and provide the best possible care to their patients, meeting both regulatory standards and professional responsibilities to uphold public health and safety.

**4. How many years does a licensee have to file an administrative complaint for general incidents, not related to impairment?**

**A. 3 years**

**B. 5 years**

**C. 6 years**

**D. 10 years**

A licensee must file an administrative complaint for general incidents, not related to impairment, within a period of six years. This timeframe aligns with statutory guidelines that govern the handling of complaints in the physical therapy profession in Florida. The six-year limit ensures that complaints are addressed in a timely manner while balancing the need for thorough investigation and resolution. Filing a complaint within this period is essential to maintain standards of professional accountability and ensure that all parties involved have access to a fair process. After the six-year window, the opportunity to file a complaint may be forfeited, which is designed to encourage timely reporting and resolution of issues that may impact patient safety, practitioner integrity, and overall public health within the profession.

**5. What is a method by which an inactive licensee can receive an active license without completing continuing education requirements?**

- A. Taking and passing the national examination**
- B. Completing a state-specific education program**
- C. Participating in volunteer clinical work**
- D. Obtaining a temporary work permit**

An inactive licensee can receive an active license without completing continuing education requirements by taking and passing the national examination. This method provides a pathway for individuals who have not maintained their continuing education credits to demonstrate their knowledge and competence in the field by successfully passing a standardized national examination, which assesses their understanding of essential physical therapy concepts and practices. This approach is particularly relevant in states like Florida, where the licensing board recognizes that passing a comprehensive exam can serve as an adequate measure of current competency, thus allowing the individual to reactivate their license without needing to fulfill the continuing education mandate that typically applies to active license holders. Other options such as completing a state-specific education program or participating in volunteer clinical work do not offer a direct pathway to reactivating the license without meeting educational requirements. Similarly, obtaining a temporary work permit typically does not equate to full licensure and may have other conditions and requirements that must be fulfilled.

**6. Which of the following is an essential requirement for a temporary permit in physical therapy practice?**

- A. Daily supervision of the therapist**
- B. Active involvement of a physician**
- C. On-site presence of the supervising physical therapist**
- D. Minimum experience of six months**

The essential requirement for a temporary permit in physical therapy practice is the on-site presence of the supervising physical therapist. This requirement ensures that the individual holding a temporary permit is under direct supervision while they carry out physical therapy duties. Such supervision is crucial, especially for those who are newly qualified or still in the process of obtaining full licensure. It allows for real-time guidance and support, ensuring that patient care is delivered safely and effectively. This supervisory presence helps uphold the standards of practice within the field and protects patients by ensuring that they receive care from someone who is appropriately guided by a licensed professional. The on-site supervision is a key regulatory measure that balances the need for clinical experience with the necessity of maintaining quality care. While daily supervision by a therapist and the involvement of a physician are important factors in clinical settings, neither is as explicitly mandated as having the supervising therapist present on-site for those with temporary permits. The requirement for a minimum experience of six months is not applicable in this context, as temporary permits are typically granted to allow new graduates to practice under direct supervision until they can sit for licensure exams.

**7. A physical therapist assistant performing patient-related activities for which of the following practitioners requires on-site supervision by a physical therapist?**

**A. Orthopedic physician**

**B. Psychiatrist**

**C. Chiropractor**

**D. Podiatrist**

In Florida, the practice of physical therapy is governed by specific regulations regarding supervision. When a physical therapist assistant (PTA) is providing patient-related activities, the level of supervision required often depends on the nature of the involved practitioner in relation to physical therapy. In this context, the supervision requirement for a PTA to be supervised on-site by a physical therapist applies specifically when the PTA is involved in activities related to a podiatrist. Podiatrists are licensed practitioners specializing in foot and ankle care, and while they can work collaboratively with physical therapists, the regulation emphasizes that supervision must be direct when the PTA is performing tasks under the direction of a podiatrist. This is due to the fact that physical therapy as a profession has distinct practices and methodologies that might require oversight and integration with evaluative physical therapy judgments. Given that podiatrists have a narrower scope of practice focused on foot and ankle issues, on-site supervision is necessary to ensure that the delivered care meets physical therapy standards. In contrast, while orthopedic physicians, psychiatrists, and chiropractors might collaborate in similar patient management, the specific requirement for on-site supervision by a physical therapist for a PTA working with a podiatrist underscores the regulatory framework governing physical therapy services in Florida.

**8. An unlicensed personnel claiming to be a physical therapist assistant is guilty of which crime?**

**A. Misdemeanor with a maximum of a \$5,000 fine**

**B. Misdemeanor with a maximum of one year imprisonment**

**C. Felony with a maximum of a \$5,000 fine**

**D. Felony with a maximum of one year imprisonment**

An unlicensed individual who claims to be a physical therapist assistant is committing a misdemeanor offense. This is classified as such because the action of falsely presenting oneself as a licensed professional poses risks to public safety and undermines the integrity of the physical therapy profession. Under Florida law, misrepresentation of licensure, especially in healthcare, is taken seriously but categorized as a misdemeanor due to the nature of the offense. The maximum penalty of one year in prison reflects the severity of the crime, which holds offenders accountable while distinguishing it from more serious felonies that would typically involve greater harm or intent. This misdemeanor status allows for legal repercussions that serve to deter others from similar actions, ensuring that only qualified individuals practice in regulated fields like physical therapy, thus protecting the public from unqualified practitioners.

**9. What is the primary focus of the continuing education requirements regarding HIV/AIDS for initial licensure?**

- A. Understanding legal frameworks**
- B. Clinical practice methods**
- C. Infection control procedures**
- D. Recent research findings**

The primary focus of the continuing education requirements regarding HIV/AIDS for initial licensure centers on infection control procedures. This focus is essential because healthcare professionals, including physical therapists, must understand how to prevent the transmission of HIV and manage the implications of treating patients who may be affected by the virus. Implementing effective infection control measures is crucial for ensuring the safety of both patients and practitioners. Infection control protocols encompass a variety of practices aimed at minimizing the risk of virus transmission in clinical settings. Knowledge in this area allows physical therapists to responsibly handle situations involving potential exposure and to comply with regulations designed to protect public health. These procedures include proper sanitation techniques, use of personal protective equipment (PPE), and understanding the epidemiology and risk factors associated with HIV/AIDS. While understanding legal frameworks, clinical practice methods, and recent research findings are important components of overall professional education, the immediate concern regarding HIV/AIDS for initial licensure is fundamentally about managing infection risks and promoting safety standards in direct patient care.

**10. In order to lawfully recommend a personal trainer, what must a licensee provide to the patient?**

- A. A written disclosure including multiple trainer options**
- B. A verbal agreement confirming the recommendation**
- C. A list of gym membership fees**
- D. A contract for personal training services**

To lawfully recommend a personal trainer, a licensee must provide a written disclosure that includes multiple trainer options. This requirement is rooted in the ethical standards and legal obligations that govern the practice of physical therapy. It ensures that the patient is informed of various options rather than being influenced to choose a specific trainer, thereby promoting patient autonomy and informed decision-making. The written disclosure helps maintain transparency in the referral process. It allows the patient to evaluate different personal trainers based on their credentials, experience, and specialties, facilitating a choice that aligns with the patient's individual needs and preferences. This practice helps prevent conflicts of interest and reinforces the duty of the physical therapist to act in the best interest of the patient. Providing just a verbal agreement or a contract for personal training services lacks the necessary documentation and fails to give the patient a comprehensive understanding of their options. Listing gym membership fees does not address the essential aspect of trainer selection and could mislead the patient regarding their choices. Thus, the inclusion of multiple trainer options in a written disclosure is the most responsible and compliant action for a licensee in this scenario.