



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center PHYSICAL THERAPY DEPARTMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE

PHILOSOPHY OF PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE

Policy No.: 122
Revised: May 2021
Supersedes: May 2018
Page: 1 of 2

PURPOSE: To describe appropriate attire for Physical Therapy Department employees during working hours (including Saturdays and holidays).

POLICY: Commonly accepted professional, health care and business customs of dress are the standard for all physical therapy department employees.

I. **Clothing, including shoes, should:**

- A. Be appropriate for the activity and setting (a white lab coat or a jacket is often appropriate).
- B. Be clean, neat, pressed, and in a good state of repair.
- C. Not impede working safely.

The following are guidelines to assist staff in meeting the expectations for professional appearance:

1. Shirts and blouses must be opaque and long enough to conceal the entire torso even when bending and reaching.
2. Undergarments should be covered at all times.
3. Socks or stockings should be worn if legs are not fully covered.
4. Sweat tops, sweat pants, sport shorts, leggings, jeans, logo t-shirts should not be worn (Rancho Logo shirts and t-shirts for Rancho sponsored events may be worn)
5. Sandals, open toed shoes, open back shoes, or high heels should not be worn while performing patient care due to safety hazards. Running shoes are discouraged for daily wear due to lack of professional appearance. Certain occasions or activities preclude this consideration.
6. Hospital scrubs are permitted for daily wear in patient care activities when circumstances warrant use of scrubs for patient safety and/or infection control needs.

II. **Fingernails:**

Optimizing hand hygiene requires the following of all direct patient care workers:

- A. No artificial fingernails.
- B. Natural nails must be clean with tips no longer than 1/4 inch in length.

III. **Jewelry:**

Should not be excessive or pose a safety or hygiene problem.

IV. Disputes on appropriate attire will be resolved at the discretion of the clinical manager/supervisor.

V. Photo ID badges are required to be worn above the waist at all times for security, and to allow patients, families, visitors and colleagues to identify the staff member by name and nature of work.



Director, Physical Therapy Department

122.doc