



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

HOME/COMMUNITY EVALUATIONS

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PURPOSE: To assess a patient's home, school, work site, or other location to promote the safest and most functional environment for the patient.

POLICY: The primary physical therapist and/or other interdisciplinary team members may visit the home, work site, or other location as indicated. Virtual technology based visits may be utilized to gather relevant information as an alternate to a physical visit. Information gathered from these visits contribute to program development and discharge planning during the patient's therapy program.

PROCEDURE:

1. The primary physical therapist and team members together with the patient and/or care providers determine if a visit to the home, work site, or other location is indicated and what mode of assessment/visit is optimal for the circumstances.
2. Therapy team members will discuss the visit with the appropriate MD to obtain medical clearance and coordinate the visit with the patient's hospital staff. The team members will make arrangements with the appropriate significant others to be present at the location.
3. The goals of the visit will determine if the patient will be present on the visit.
4. The staff involved with the visit will document findings, recommendations, and any instructions provided to the patient/significant others. Documentation may be in the form of an individual note or a joint OT/PT progress note in the medical chart.

5. Alternate modes and formats for assessments may be used if physically visiting the home, worksite, school or other site is not optimal. Electronic means such as videos, photos or guided video visits may be employed.
6. All appropriate privacy and security measures must be observed when engaging in a physical or a virtual visit to a patient's home, work site, school or other location.


Director, Physical Therapy Department

