

SUBJECT: PATIENT AND FAMILY EDUCATION - PHYSICAL THERAPY	REFERENCE #8301
DEPARTMENT: REHABILITATION SERVICES	PAGE: 1 OF: 1
APPROVED BY:	EFFECTIVE: REVISED:

**POLICY:**

The Physical Therapist is responsible for educating patients and their significant others on the disease process in relation to the physical therapy treatment techniques, equipment and issues pertinent to each individual patient.

**PROCEDURE:**

- The Physical Therapist shall meet informally or in a structured meeting, as needed, with the patient and his/her significant other(s) to assist them in his/her educational process.
- The learning needs of the patient/family will be assessed, including any barriers to learning and desire and motivation to learn will be noted.
- Visual aids, as appropriate, such as physical demonstrations will be employed as an aid to learning.
- “Hands-on” learning techniques will be utilized for those patients using equipment in the home environment.
- All Physical Therapists providing learning instruction will evaluate the effectiveness of their educational efforts and re-educate as necessary.
- As appropriate, education will be provided as a collaborative effort with all members of the healthcare team.