

PT 521: Critical Inquiry I
CLINICAL PAPER (1credit hour)
Fall Semester, 2004

You must be registered for PT 521 for 1 credit hour.

YOU WILL HAVE TWO ASSIGNMENTS FOR THIS COURSE:

1. Case Reports:

You will be writing **2 case reports** about patients you worked with on your clinical affiliations. These case reports must be written in detail and should describe the patient, the disease (or problem), the intervention(s) and the outcome(s). Each case report should be at least 3 pages but no longer than 5 pages long. The case reports must include some references (although minimal) and conform to the style guidelines used in Physical Therapy.

You are free to choose the patients you wish to write about. I would suggest that you select patients who you feel would make an interesting case report and patients that you were able to work with from the start (evaluation) to end (discharge) of their PT program.

I will have you submit the case reports to me at the end of the Fall semester and we will work on formally developing those case reports in the Spring semester to enhance your writing skills. In order for you to work with those same case reports during the Spring semester, you will need to save all pertinent reference information on the patient and their PT program. I would recommend that you record and save more information than you write up so that you will have adequate data when we do a formal write-up. Be careful NOT to include any information about the patient that might be identifiable!

I have included a checklist that you will need to follow to make sure that all the elements of the case report are included. Be sure to include the titles to the various sections (introduction, methods etc.) in your paper.

THESE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE DUE IN MY OFFICE BY DECEMBER 15, 2004. ALL PAPERS ARE TO BE IN FINAL FORM WHEN THEY REACH MY OFFICE. PAPERS MAY BE SUBMITTED IN *ANY ONE* OF THE FOLLOWING FORMS:

- 1) Typed and submitted in paper format
- 2) Attached to an e-mail. The attachment **MUST** be typed in either MS Word or Wordperfect format (PC not MAC). The email should be mailed to me at:
tommohr@medicine.nodak.edu
- 3) Faxed to me at 701-777-4199.

NOTE: It will be **your responsibility** to **keep a file copy** of your paper, preferably on disk. This should be done in case the paper copy or email attachment is lost. If you email the file, please make sure I received the file intact.

2. Clinical Questions:

In addition to the two case reports you will need to submit **TWO** clinical questions that would like to research. Ideally, you would work with your clinical instructor to come up with the two questions. For example, "Does iontophoresis reduce calcium deposits in the shoulder with calcific tendonitis?" During the Spring semester you will research those questions using current evidence found in the literature.

PT 521: Elements of a Case Report, Fall 2004

Name of Author _____

For each element, check whether the element is present (Y), absent (N) or in some cases absent but not applicable to this particular study (NA).

Y N NA **Abstract**

Introduction/Review of the Literature:

Y	N	NA	Title of Case Study
Y	N	NA	Description of patient's problem/diagnosis/prognosis
Y	N	NA	Definition of terms and key words
Y	N	NA	Need or purpose of study
Y	N	NA	Efficacy of different treatment approaches
Y	N	NA	Relevant past information or previous studies
Y	N	NA	Research pertinent to this case study
Y	N	NA	Screening criteria used for patient selection

Methods:

Y	N	NA	Patient's past medical history
Y	N	NA	Demographic data (age, gender, occupation etc.)
Y	N	NA	Patient's previous treatments for this diagnosis
Y	N	NA	Measurements taken
Y	N	NA	Reliability of measurements
Y	N	NA	Specific tests or evaluation procedures
Y	N	NA	Patient assessment/evaluation findings
Y	N	NA	Detailed description of treatment and equipment
Y	N	NA	Intervention Plan and Goals
Y	N	NA	Intervention must be thoroughly described
Y	N	NA	Time line for case study
Y	N	NA	Other disciplines involved in intervention program
Y	N	NA	Procedure for re-evaluation and testing
Y	N	NA	Reference for evaluation procedure
Y	N	NA	Reference for intervention program

Results:

Y	N	NA	Qualitative and quantitative data collected
Y	N	NA	Results of testing should be thoroughly stated
Y	N	NA	Describe Patient's response to the intervention
Y	N	NA	Describe compliance issues (if applicable)

Discussion:

Y	N	NA	Try and provide an explanation of your results
Y	N	NA	Discuss your results in relation to other studies
Y	N	NA	Discuss clinical implications of your findings
Y	N	NA	Discuss limitations of study
Y	N	NA	Recommendations for future studies

References:

Y	N	NA	Provide a bibliography
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