

Interview Assessment #5

Name of Professional: Debra Quach

Profession/Title: Physical Therapist

Business/Company name: Dell Children's Medical Center Foundation

Date of Interview: November 3, 2017

My fifth interview conducted with Debra Quach, was very informational and I learned more about the aspects of home health in regards to geriatrics and focusing on documentation and different forms of treatment. Coming into the interview, I wanted to learn more about the focused education in college that you have to take for physical therapy and a variety of types of treatments.

In regards to education the board exam encompasses all specializations of physical therapy and a broad view of each. Previously, I have heard that in college they cover every specialization and you are required to go to a clinic and for observation hours in order to gain experience and knowledge in what you like best. Based on this, I am looking into researching about different specializations in physical therapy in order to gain a better perspective of the field as a whole instead of focusing on just sports or specializations that encompass low back pain patients. Also, I am wondering the different ways in each specialization in what physical therapists do to treat low back pain patients in regards to learning about the processes for a variety of patients.

In the interview, I learned about how documentation is different in each clinic. In regards to the system physical therapists use for documentation it depends on the system the hospital uses or what the specific clinic uses. Previously, in my interview with Brett Holland, he had

shown me the system that ATI uses and it encompassed more typing and analysis of what they did with the patient and where they want to go in the future with rehabilitating the patient. In the interview, Debra Quach told me that some systems encompass more clicking of questions and what they did with the patient, as well as some typing and some are all typing. I am wondering if some systems in companies are the same as the doctors the physical therapists work with or different.

In the specialization of geriatrics, the main area of focus is rehabilitating the patient after an illness in where their pain came from. I have not looked closely into the specialization of geriatrics and what types of treatments and injuries are in the specialization. I am wondering different focuses of treatment in what types of things physical therapists can do with an older patient and how different it is than with a younger patient. Contrastingly, in the specialization of pediatrics I am wondering if the treatment of similar injuries to ones in athletes is similar or different. Also, in regards to technology if dry-handling or electrical stimulation is used more in pediatrics and based on the type of injury and body type.

Based on the interview with her, I want to ask my mentor what types of injuries use electrical stimulation or dry-handling and what other types of electrical treatments are used depending on the patient. Also, since she told me exercise physiology or kinesiology are more efficient majors than biology for wanting to be a physical therapist I am looking into what major would be the best for me to go into college in the next year and a half.