

FST409

Physiotherapy

Brief description

In their fourth year of study, physiotherapy students provide services to Tswellang School for Children with Physical Disabilities and the MUCPP Community Health Centre. During a four-week rotation at Tswellang, students – as members of the interdisciplinary team – are equipped with the knowledge and practical experience to be able to holistically treat children with physical disabilities in a school environment. Primary health care services are provided at MUCPP by fourth-year physiotherapy students.

Community partners

- Learners at Tswellang School for Children with Physical Disabilities
- Patients/Clients of the MUCPP Community Health Centre, Mangaung

Service sector partners

- Tswellang School for Children with Physical Disabilities
- MUCPP Community Health Centre

Outcomes for students

At the end of the clinical block students will have the knowledge to treat children with physical disabilities individually and they will be able to assess wheelchair positioning and seating. They further learn to integrate their knowledge of screening instruments to be able to recommend school placement for children with physical disabilities. Students learn the value of interdisciplinary team work as well as to respect each team member's role in helping the children to function optimally in the school environment. At MUCPP and

Tswellang Special School, students learn to respectfully practice physiotherapy in a diversity of cultures. Students learn the value of primary health care in the South African health care system.

Service learning component

Six students are allocated to Tswellang School for placement every morning of the week, every week of the school term. They are involved in the children's screening, wheelchair positioning and seating as well as recreational activities. Students also treat children individually and present information sessions to teachers. Two students are allocated to the MUCPP Health Clinic every day for the whole term. Patients receive individual physiotherapy treatment for a variety of conditions, including developmental delays, pain and neurological conditions. Exercise and information sessions are also presented.

Impact on community

Children receive individual physiotherapy treatment. The therapists at Tswellang are assisted with the children's wheelchair positioning and seating adjustments, as well as with screening of children with physical disabilities for school placement. Students furthermore present information sessions to teachers regarding specific disabilities. Through these sessions teachers are also able to share their own knowledge and experience with the students. The knowledge generated by these collaborative experiences is valued by teachers and students.



HEALTH SCIENCES
GESONDHEIDSWETENSAPPE

UFS·UV

School of Allied
Health Professions

Department
Physiotherapy

Study year of students
Fourth year

Credits: 128

Module offered during
First and second semester

Lecturer
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