Overall Objectives for Placements

Clinical placements provide students with exposures to physiotherapy practice, the healthcare environment and the opportunity to apply their classroom learning to clinical practice. Conversely, the students will be expected to bring their clinical learning back to the classroom.

The objectives outlined for the clinical placements provide a general reference for student learning and evaluation. Two documents have been used as references in the development of the objectives:

- the Essential Competencies for Physiotherapists in Canada(2009) (National Physiotherapy Advisory Group)
- the Competency Assessment Questionnaire (College and Association of Physiotherapists of Alberta)

Note that:

- the objectives are flexible. They are influenced by many things (e.g. placement, caseload, student’s past experience).
- the knowledge, skills and behaviors are cumulative – i.e. objectives for a given level include those that are specified in addition to those from previous placements (as relevant)

It is the intent of the Department that students should:

- undertake one minor project during each six-week placement (e.g.. provide a case study review, in-service, best practice paper)
- vary their projects between the placements, as possible
- be permitted the time to review the literature relevant to the care of at least one client (e.g. related to outcome measure, best practice) during each placement