



AT THE FOREFRONT

**UChicago  
Medicine**

**ABPTRFE**

Accredited  
Program

## **University of Chicago Medicine Physical Therapy Acute Care Residency**

### **Mission:**

The mission of University of Chicago Medical Center Physical Therapy Acute Care Residency program is to provide a postgraduate professional development opportunity for physical therapists to become acute care specialists through advanced education, research, and professional interactions. Each interaction will emphasize the development of psychomotor skills, theoretical rationales, and clinical reasoning to enhance the resident's ability to evaluate and treat adult and geriatric acute care patients. The overall focus is to maintain, restore, and improve movement to enable optimal performance, enhance health, well-being, and quality of life for all patients and clients we treat. The program will graduate a physical therapy specialist who will be a resource for the University of Chicago Medical Center, the medical community, and the surrounding community.

### **Program Outcomes:**

To provide a post professional acute care educational experience to physical therapists who will be better able to:

1. Practice with advanced clinical decision-making skills in support of the program mission
2. Utilize all the elements of PT patient client management model
3. Use evidence based best practice to improve the outcomes of their patients and clients and their caregivers
4. Provide superior efficacious, safe, and age appropriate clinical care
5. Be able to participate as part of a interdisciplinary team to optimize the management of acute care patients
6. Become a resource for the community in rehabilitation in the acute care setting
7. Be prepared to sit for the ABPTS examination for board certification in their specialty of choice, obtain advanced certification, or demonstrate intent to sit for future ABPTS Acute Care specialist exam within 2 years of graduation.
8. Enhance skills, knowledge and incorporate evidence-based practice into physical therapy care within the University of Chicago Medicine
9. Enhance the physical therapy profession by graduating residents who will contribute to the profession

## **Curriculum:**

The commitment to the residency program is 53 weeks:

- 4 weeks orientation
- 4 weeks non education time at holidays
- 45 weeks for education

*Note the 8 weeks of non-education time are still included in residency hours. These weeks are 100% patient care and this time is calculated in total residency hours.*

Breakdown of education and clinical practice hours:

- **Clinical Practice:** 40 hours per week during orientation and holidays, 30 hours during educational weeks = approx. 1660 hours
- **Coursework and didactic education:** Average of 4 hours per week x 49 weeks = approx. 196 hours
- **Direct patient care mentoring:** 3-4 hours a week x 46 weeks = minimum 150
- **Clinical Investigations:** 2 hours per week x 46 weeks (functional measures, tracking of patient scores, research, journal clubs, peer reviews, grand rounds, case reviews) = approx. 115 hours
- **Specialty Practice Observation:** 2 hours per week (MD clinics, surgery, multidisciplinary team members) x 46 weeks = 184 hours

*Total hours for program: 2,155 scheduled*

## **Outline of Acute Care Residency Educational Modules:**

- Principles of Rehabilitation and Clinical Reasoning
- Evidenced Based Practice and Critical Appraisal of Clinical Research
- Orthopedic conditions
- Cardiothoracic Surgery
- Cardiac Medicine and Vascular Medicine/Surgery
- General Medicine
- Burns, Plastic Surgery, and Wounds
- Critical Care
- Neuro/Neurosurgical conditions
- Hematology/Oncology
- Trauma
- General Surgery

## **Hours:**

The majority of on-site residency activities occur Monday through Friday between the hours of 7AM and 6 PM. Residents are considered exempt employees who are salaried. Their work schedule will be flexible and allow for patient care, training, mentoring, and study time and

preparation. Schedules are coordinated by the residency director and shall not exceed expectation of more than 50 hours/week of direct program participation. There will be additional personal study time required.

**Weekend Coverage:**

Physical Therapy Residents will be scheduled to work weekends on a rotating basis, approximately one weekend/4 weeks and at least one holiday and associated weekend. This time will be tracked as patient care hours.

**Salary:**

As a resident in the program, your salary for the year of the residency program is set according to the cost of maintaining the program.

Other than the \$4,000 continuing education benefit from the institution (available after probation), there are no additional monies allocated for outside continuing education, tuition reimbursement, travel or parking fees to any observations/outside facilities, living expenses, licensure fees, or professional dues.

There are no additional program fees.

**PTO:**

Post graduate trainees (PT or OT residents and fellows) are full time employees of the University of Chicago Medical Center. They will be eligible to take 10 days of paid time off, with the approval of the program coordinator and the assistant director. 7 organizational holidays will also be paid; New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Memorial Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. Secondary to the extensive education and curriculum pieces of the residency/fellowship positions it is very challenging to provide the trainees with extended time (more than 1-2 consecutive work days) off throughout their program.

## How to apply:

Applications accepted online through ABPTRFE RF-PTCAS.

Requirements include:

- Resume/CV
- Academic transcripts
- Cover letter
- Three letters of recommendation
  - One from clinical instructor
  - One from PT school faculty

**In addition, please complete a PT Acute Care Resident application online at:**

<http://www.uchospitals.edu/jobs/index.html>

Interested applicants must be Physical Therapists:

- Licensed or eligible for licensure, in the state of Illinois.
- Practicing at the level of a competent clinician with basic patient management issues related to examination, evaluation, diagnosis/prognosis and intervention.
- Display professional behaviors and a strong interest in Acute Care physical therapy
- Interested new graduates may apply prior to graduation and state licensure, however, all residents must be graduates of an APTA accredited program and licensed in the state of Illinois by the start of the program year (August).

## Interviews:

Top candidates will be interviewed initially via phone, second interviews will be completed on the University of Chicago Medical Campus (or virtually, depending on current institutional guidelines). All interviews will include behavioral, clinical questions, and patient scenarios. Please be prepared to discuss research ideas and to demonstrate patient interactions and treatment plans.

**Lauren Miller, PT DPT**  
**Program Director for Acute Care PT Residency Program**  
**Board Certified Clinical Specialist in Oncologic Physical Therapy**  
**5841 South Maryland Avenue, MC 1081**  
**Chicago, IL 60637**  
**Voicemail: 773-795-7291**  
**Fax: 773-702-5340**  
**Email: [lauren.miller@uchicagomedicine.org](mailto:lauren.miller@uchicagomedicine.org)**

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

**1. As a full time employee at the hospital, how is the resident compensated?**

**Is there a separate resident rate during residency hours? Is the resident offered a "normal" salary with additional years of commitment after the residency finishes? Is there tuition involved or is it waived by being a full time employee?**

The residency position is a full time salaried position. The level of compensation is less than a full time treating therapist and the difference in pay is what it costs UCMC to educate the resident. There are not additional years of commitment from the resident or the organization upon completion of the program.

**3. How many people are accepted into the program each year?**

Two orthopedic residents, one manual therapy fellow, one pediatric resident, one acute care resident

**4. Are the hours of didactic coursework each week in a classroom format?**

**If so, is that during the working week or on the weekend?**

This is generally presented during the workweek in multiple different formats.

**5. Who are the faculty of this program, and who are the mentors?**

Faculty and mentors are the same – most are employees of UCMC and for some sections, we have additional faculty from outside clinics. Faculty members that are involved in the program have extensive experience in acute care and specifically with the patient population involved in each module. During each section, the faculty who is teaching is also mentoring the resident for at least 3-4 hours/week.

**6. Do residents work weekends?**

Yes, about one weekend a month. Comp days are given for the weekend time – one day prior to the weekend, and one day after the weekend.

**7. Is the University of Chicago affiliated with a Physical Therapy School and require teaching in the University setting?**

The University of Chicago does not have a PT program that it is affiliated with for teaching. Many of our faculty members teach at local PT programs and this may be an opportunity during the course of the residency .We do have a medical school at the University of Chicago, and the physical therapy residents are involved in teaching Medical residents from the various services as well as nurses and other health professionals. We also take a number of PT students throughout the year for clinical rotations.