

CLINICAL ACTIVITY IDEAS FOR FALL & WINTER PRACTICUM STUDENTS: PLACEMENTS WITH ADULT POPULATIONS

The fall and winter practicum placements take place during the first and second semesters of the students' second year of study. These placements consist of 10 half days or 5 full days of practical experience and are intended to introduce students to clinical practice. Students are expected to obtain hands-on experiences with clients during this practicum placement, by actively engaging in clinical activities under the supervision of the clinical educator. The following is a list of suggestions/ideas for ensuring active student participation within these practicum placements:

Students may participate in the following treatment activities:

- Conduct a portion of a treatment session (work on one goal or target within the session)
- Conduct an entire treatment session (paired students share the responsibilities for each goal/task or alternate being responsible for each goal/task)
- Develop or revise therapy materials for clients and their families/caregivers
- Develop workshops or presentations for clients, caregivers/families, or other professionals (e.g., workshop on dysphagia care for nursing staff, workshop on communicating with clients with aphasia for caregivers/families, etc.)
- Provide part or all of a workshop or presentation to clients, caregivers/families, or other professionals
- Collect data throughout the session
- Develop a list of possible long-term and/or short-term goals based on assessment information
- Implement behaviour management techniques with support

*see Appendix C-1 in the Clinical Practicum Handbook for a "Therapy Plan Template"

Students may participate in the following assessment activities:

- Administer a portion of an assessment tool (one or more subtests)
- Administer an entire assessment tool (paired students can share the responsibilities – for example one student could conduct the assessment while the other collects the data and then they could switch roles)
- Obtain informal assessment information about voice, resonance, fluency, articulation/phonology, etc. during the session
- Obtain a language sample during the session
- Conduct an oral mechanism examination (students conduct OME while clinician collects data or have students share the responsibility of conducting the OME and collecting the data)
- Participate in a bedside swallow assessment, MBS evaluation, or FEES examination (student can feed the client, palpate one side of the client's neck during the swallowing assessment, collect data for the clinician, or conduct all of these tasks under the direct supervision of the clinical educator)
- Conduct a hearing screening
- Score informal and formal assessment tools following completion of the assessments

Students may participate in the following administrative activities:

- Write chart notes and/or reports
- Fill out referral forms



PLEASE NOTE: This list is not exhaustive; it is simply a list of possible suggestions/ideas to ensure active student participation within the fall and winter practicum placements. Clinical educators may have students participate in additional clinical activities during their fall and winter practicum placements.