

UAMS MEDICAL CENTER
ACS SERVICES MANUAL

SUBJECT: Guideline for Inpatient Rehabilitation Services
UPDATED: new

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EFFECTIVE: 8/3/2023

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CONCURRENCE(S): Trauma Faculty

APPROVAL: 8/3/2023

PURPOSE:

To provide a guideline for inpatient trauma rehabilitation at UAMS.

GUIDELINES:

Occupational Therapy:

At UAMS, Occupational orders are placed by the medical team if they feel the patient is demonstrating a current decline in their functional status due to a medical condition. The therapy department will receive these orders through EPIC and each therapist is assigned to a patient. The assigned therapist performs a thorough chart review to obtain an appropriate clinical picture. The OT ICU Guideline is applied to determine when a patient is medically stable for a functional evaluation. Once a patient is appropriate, an occupational therapist will perform a functional bedside evaluation. An evaluation may assess cognition, motor coordination, sensation, ROM/MMT, functional transfer, and ADL and IADL independence. Each evaluation includes prior levels of function history and patient/family centered therapy goals. If a patient is demonstrating a functional difference from their baseline, a therapist will create a plan of care and maintain the patient on their caseload for continued therapy treatment.

Discharge and DME/AE recommendations are also provided at time of evaluation and updated based on the patient's functional status. Recommendations are determined by what level of therapy treatment the patient needs to return to their baseline function. OT coverage is 7 days per week.

Physical Therapy:

Similarly to occupational therapy, the medical team places a physical therapy order when a patient is not at their previous functional baseline. The physical therapist who is assigned to the patient will perform a chart review and determine if it is safe and appropriate for the patient to participate in therapy. Once the patient is deemed safe to participate, the physical therapist will perform an initial evaluation. The physical therapy evaluation entails assessments of cognition, coordination, sensation, muscle strength and motor control, mobility, safety, and need for further physical therapy, to name a few. After the evaluation is performed, the physical therapist will assign appropriate frequency and duration of therapy and create functional and patient-centered goals. The therapist or therapist assistant will then perform evidence-based, best practice care within the physical therapy scope of practice. PT coverage is 7 days per week.

Discharge recommendations are created by the therapist at the initial evaluation and are re-assessed at each patient visit.

Discharge decisions involve an interdisciplinary team, including the patient and family members.

Physical therapists are available seven days per week to assess and treat trauma patients. The care that trauma patients receive is guided by the UAMS PT ICU guidelines that provide comprehensive and cost-effective care.

Speech-Language Pathology:

Speech-Language Pathology orders are placed in EPIC by primary team to assess swallowing, cognition, language, and/or voice (including after tracheostomy.) These orders will be assigned to a clinician. SLP coverage is 7 days per week. The therapist chart reviews the patient and utilizes our departmental guidelines. The timing of evaluation will be addressed based on our departmental guidelines (attached in email.)

A swallow evaluation could be completed at the bedside for a clinical swallow evaluation or a fiberoptic endoscopic evaluation of swallowing (FEES) or in radiology for a videofluoroscopic exam (VFSS.) A clinical swallow evaluation is typically ordered, but not limited to, prolonged oral intubation, after head, facial, or neck injuries, after tracheostomy, or after cervical spine fusions. A clinical swallow evaluation is completed and results and recommendations will include type of diet and/or need for instrumental assessment. The type of instrumental evaluation completed is based on need, medical fragility, historical and clinical findings during clinical swallow evaluation, and decision made after patient and family

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education. Cognitive-Linguistic evaluations are ordered on patients with a documented traumatic or acquired head injury, facial or head trauma, abnormal Glasgow Coma Scale scores, or positive loss of consciousness to determine deficits. Voice following tracheostomy evaluations are completed to establish verbal communication, improve swallowing function, improve secretion management, and work towards decannulation process.

Discharge recommendations are provided at the time of evaluation and updated based on progress made in therapy. These recommendations are discussed with patients, families, and treatment teams.

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R)

At UAMS, PM&R is dedicated to providing rehabilitation opportunities for various patient populations, including sports medicine disorders, amputees, spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, stroke, geriatrics, musculoskeletal and neuromuscular disorders. All moderate and severe TBIs shall receive a PM&R consultation. PM&R can assist with management of agitation, spasticity, paroxysmal sympathetic hyperactivity, as well as neurostimulation, and disposition.

REFERENCES:

- Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Speech-Language Pathology Evaluation and Treatment Prioritization. (7/2023) University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Integrated Clinical Enterprise Practice Manual Rehabilitation Services, Policy Number 15.
- Inpatient OT: ICU Guidelines. (7/2023) University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Integrated Clinical Enterprise Practice Manual Rehabilitation Services, Policy Number IP OT 4.
- Inpatient PT: ICU Guidelines. (5/2021) University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Integrated Clinical Enterprise Practice Manual Rehabilitation Services, Policy Number IP PT 7.
- Speech Pathology: Swallowing Assessments. (4/2023) University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Integrated Clinical Enterprise Practice Manual Rehabilitation Services.
- Speech Pathology: Swallowing Assessments Post Extubation. (5/2023) University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Integrated Clinical Enterprise Practice Manual Rehabilitation Services.