

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course title:

Clinical Practice in Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapy in somatic healthcare includes different age groups: children, adults, elderly.

The following placement institutions are available:

- Rehabilitation departments of clinics in Rīga (Biķernieki and State Children's Hospital);
- Rehabilitation centres in Jūrmala (Vaivari and Jaunķemeri);
- Children's rehabilitation centre "Mēs esam līdzās" in Rīga.

Additional placements by individual schedule are also available.

Occupational Therapy in psychiatric healthcare includes adults and elderly.

Practice placement is arranged at Rīga Psychiatric and Narcology Centre (hospital and ambulatory centre).

Occupational Therapy for persons with learning disability includes adolescents and adults.

Practice placements are arranged in day care centres.

Aim of the course

Develop professional competences to be able to work as occupational therapist independently.

Develop skills of contact with patient or client.

Evaluate patient or client with appropriate methods and theoretical practice models.

Analyse evaluation data, identification of occupational performance problems, limitations and resources.

Set and justify short and long term goals for therapy.

Develop adequate therapy plan for patient or client and choose the appropriate therapy methods.

Use different therapy methods and change them in therapy process if necessary.

Work with therapy documentation and use precise occupational therapy and medical terminology.

Evaluate the efficiency of therapy, justify the use of therapy methods and give recommendations to the patient or client.

Cooperate with patient's or client's relatives, other professionals in the rehabilitation team and colleagues.

Work organisation during clinical practice

Practice placements are available in the period from September till November 2011 and from February till April 2012. Practice plan may be adjusted according to students' interests. The work plan and schedule may be adjusted in accordance with the practice site (beginning and end of work day, breaks etc).

Students are required to conform to the internal rules and ethical norms of the workplace. Communication in English with supervisors is possible. However, communication in English with clients is not guaranteed, therefore assistance may be required from supervisors or local students. Knowledge of the Russian language may be beneficial.

Demands in clinical practice (criteria for passing clinical practice)

At the beginning of every practice phase, the student is asked to fill a practice goal list. The goals are the basis of discussion between the student and his/her supervisor. At the end of practice, the student makes self-evaluation of performance and the supervisor makes his/her comments on the student's work.

During the practice the student prepares a daily work report (work time, patient/client details, and description of actions taken). The student can also process all therapy documentation at the practice site.

Students should demonstrate appropriate skills and knowledge in line with the aims of the course. The practice supervisor provides interim and final evaluations of the student's knowledge and skills according to the evaluation list. The student makes self-evaluation.

The student analyses and prepares patient case reports at all practice periods. The student should be able to demonstrate the chosen evaluation and therapy methods and answer to additional questions.

Specific demands, documentation and evaluation criteria for practice can be discussed prior to practice.