

 Oroville Hospital	<b>Job Description for Speech Pathologist</b>	Department:	<b>Speech Therapy</b>
		Dept. #:	<b>7780</b>
		Last Updated: Last Reviewed:	7/08; 01/18

### **Reports To**

Director Rehabilitation Services

Supervisor Speech Therapy

### **Job Summary**

A Speech-Language Pathologist evaluates and treats patients per physician order utilizing a variety of therapeutic techniques. Speech-Language Pathologist communicates with families, physicians and other health team members regarding residents, maintains timely documentation in each medical record, labor and service logs as well as participates in rehab team meetings and appropriate committees.

### **Duties**

- Determines each patient's need for skilled therapy based on objective and documented criteria
- Evaluates patients within established protocol of physician's order
- Conducts the evaluation according to the standardized or recommend techniques and procedures including timely documentation
- Develops treatment plan at the end of the evaluation which includes measurable and objective long and short term goals for each patient based on the evaluation data
- Follows each treatment plan in an objective, measurable and documented approach
- Prepares a daily work schedule and completes all treatments scheduled
- Requests assistance or adjusts therapy scheduled to avoid interference with the quality of service
- Consistently maintains an average monthly caseload of 24 (full-time equivalent) units a day, with appropriate census and mix
- Maintains timely and accurate records according to policies, procedures and regulations with included evaluations, screenings, progress notes, discharge summaries, labor and service logs
- Maintains active and supportive communications with the patient, significant others, physicians and other team members concerning progress, problems, home programs, follow-up, and other issues related to the therapeutic process. Attends 90% of required patient care and rehab meetings
- Participates in marketing/guest relation programs as requested, including but not limited to, communication (by phone, in person or in writing) with physicians, discharge planners and clinicians and other facilities, in-services and families

- Maintains a positive rapport with all staff at all times through professional appearance and actions
- Conducts one or more in-services a year on relevant subjects for staff and/or other rehab staff
- Communicates pertinent information on a timely basis to supervisor and seeks guidance necessary for performance of duties. Responds appropriately to clinical supervision as indicated by improving skills
- Keeps informed of current educational, Medicare regulations, medical guidelines, clinical trends and procedures through attendance of at least one conference or seminar a year
- Demonstrates responsibility through reporting to work on time at the 95% level
- Provides proper notification fro absence or tardiness to the supervisor
- In the Intensive Care Unit, coordinates daily with patient's nurse
- Participates in weekly care plan meetings for Med/Surg Units
- Coordinates care on daily basis with medical staff, physical therapy, occupational therapy, respiratory therapy and Dietitians
- Seeks frequent verbal interaction with attending physician in high acuity cases
- Provides written updates to physicians utilizing physician progress note pages in medical chart, in addition to Speech Therapy section notes
- Initiates early discussion with Discharge Planners in order to maximize treatment for the shorter duration cases (less than one week)
- Conducts Modified Barium Swallow studies
- Documents plan of care per established protocols
- Diet texture changes recommended to physician on day of evaluation; follow individual physician guideline to change texture
- Follows established protocols, including proper documentation, for swallow precautions
- Participates in weekly Care Plan Interdisciplinary Team meetings; documents Care Plan in chart
- Maintain current clinical knowledge through continuing education
- Performs other duties as assigned

### **Qualifications**

- M.A. or M.S. degree in Communicative Disorder/Speech-Language Pathology
- Current certificate of clinical competence (C.C.C.)
- California Speech- Pathology License current or eligible
- Current American Heart Provider Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification
- Clinical Fellowship Year Candidates will be considered
- Geriatric experience preferred but not required

- Effective communication and organizational skills
- Competency in the provision of Speech Therapy including dysphasia in accordance with acceptable standards of practice
- Knowledge of current practices in Speech Therapy including dysphasia with emphasis in geriatrics

### **Organizational Expectations**

- Provides a positive and professional representation of the organization
- Promotes culture of safety for patients and employees through proper identification, reporting, documentation, and prevention
- Maintains hospital standards for a clean and quiet patient environment to maintain a positive patient care experience
- Adheres to infection-control policies and protocols
- Participates in ongoing quality improvement activities
- Maintains compliance with organization's policies, as well as established practices, protocols, and procedures of the position, department, and applicable professional standards
- Complies with organizational and regulatory policies for handling confidential patient information
- Demonstrates excellent customer service through his/her attitude and actions, consistent with the standards contained in the Vision, Mission, and Values of the organization
- Adheres to professional standards, hospital policies and procedures, federal, state, and local requirements

### **Functional Demands**

Work area is well lighted and ventilated. Contact with patients in a wide variety of circumstances. Exposed to noise, chemicals, communicable diseases, and hazardous materials. Wears personal protective equipment as required.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to stand, use hands to handle or feel objects, or controls; each with hands and arms. The employee is frequently required to walk or stand for extended periods, occasionally required to sit, balance; stoop, kneel or crouch.

The employee must frequently lift and/or move 50 pounds and occasionally lift and/or move up to 100 pounds with help.