

AFSC 45P4, Staff
AFSC 45P3, Qualified
AFSC 45P1, Entry

★PHYSICAL MEDICINE PHYSICIAN
(Changed 31 Oct 23)

1. Specialty Summary. Examines, diagnoses, and treats disabling conditions. Manages physical medicine and rehabilitation services. Related DoD Occupational Group: 260105.

2. Duties and Responsibilities:

2.1. Examines, diagnoses, and treats disabilities. Prepares and reviews case histories and clinical records. Examines patients and provides medical management for musculoskeletal trauma, disabling pain, deformity or amputation, peruses, contractures, deconditioning, spasticity, dysphagia, decubiti, bowel incontinence, and other disabling conditions. Prescribes electrotherapy, ultrasonography, heat and cold therapy, hydrotherapy, debridement, short-wave and microwave diathermy, infrared and ultraviolet radiation, and orthotic and prosthetic applications. Performs electrodiagnosis, including electromyography, nerve conduction studies, and somatosensory evoked potentials. Consults and coordinates with physical and occupational therapists, speech pathologists, neuropsychologists, behavioral psychologists, social workers, and medical technicians.

2.2. Instructs interns and residents in the diagnosis and treatment of physically disabling temporary and permanent conditions. Serves as a consultant on physical medicine and rehabilitation.

2.3. Formulates plans and procedures for physical medicine services. Schedules diagnostic and treatment facilities. Prescribes for and directs rehabilitation nurses. Advises on types and quantity of physical medicine and rehabilitation equipment and supplies. Coordinates physical medicine and rehabilitation services with other medical activities.

3. ★Specialty Qualifications:

3.1. Knowledge. Fulfillment of education requirement satisfies this requirement.

3.2. Education. For entry into this specialty, a Doctor of Medicine degree or a doctor of osteopathy degree from an approved school of medicine or osteopathy is mandatory.

3.3. Training. Not used.

3.4. Experience. For award of AFSC 45P3, completion of a residency or fellowship in physical medicine and rehabilitation acceptable to the Surgeon General, HQ USAF, is mandatory.

3.5. Other. The following are mandatory:

3.5.1. For entry and retention of AFSC 45P1, current enrollment in a physical medicine residency program acceptable to the Surgeon General, HQ USAF.

3.5.2. For award and retention of AFSCs 45P3/4:

3.5.2.1. ★Must obtain and maintain clinical privileges IAW DHA-PM 6025.13 Vol 4 and/or AFI 44-119, when applicable (or be immediately eligible for said privileges if assigned to a non-clinical position).

3.5.2.2. A state license to practice medicine.

3.5.3. ★For retention of AFSCs 45P3/4, must not have a revocation of privileges or permanent and substantial reduction, restriction, or denial of privileges IAW DHA-PM 6025.13 Vol 4 and/or AFI 44-119, when applicable.