



Paediatric Physiotherapists in the Independent and Private Sectors Committee

APCP Information Leaflet

Working as a Physiotherapist in Products / Clinical Specialist

As some physiotherapists may work in more than one area e.g. private work and product work, please refer to each guidance sheet for specific information. There will be some crossover between areas, but also key differences.

Patient funding

- ◇ Physiotherapists will usually be Private Company Employees.
- ◇ Range of funding streams for patients including private/self-pay, NHS funding, LEA funding and charity funding for products.

Advantages

- ◇ Macro-manage and deliver training and education of specific and specialised product related therapy and evidence based practice.
- ◇ Creating a large scale team and working relations with therapists across the UK, ROI and Europe.
- ◇ Opportunity to devote time to research and implement current evidence based practice within paediatric disability and the therapeutic product field.
- ◇ Continue to try and develop new means to support families and therapists to access innovative products and technology that can facilitate therapy and developmental outcomes.
- ◇ Opportunities to travel within the UK and Europe.
- ◇ Managing own diary, holidays and future business development opportunities.

Challenges

- ◇ Maintaining CPD - some needs to be sourced and financed yourself, though some is assisted by the company which is very beneficial.
- ◇ Isolating at times.
- ◇ Changing perceptions and attitudes towards new technology and innovative products, that can significantly improve therapy and prevent costly complications and surgery.
- ◇ Building trust and creating a transdisciplinary environment for each individual child in such a large scale geography with dispersed contact.
- ◇ Transporting equipment is manually challenging and likely to be away from home often.



- ◇ Supporting families and therapy teams to fund for specialised and innovative therapy equipment.
- ◇ Documenting contact time as 'on the go' a lot, therefore actual time spent includes travelling as well as therapeutic time.

Insurance

- ◇ If you are a full member of the CSP (except categories Q-overseas and C-non-practicing), you will benefit from the CSP PLI scheme. This includes medical malpractice insurance and public liability insurance, and covers you for working within almost all settings, in both paid and unpaid capacities, as long as you are working within the physiotherapy scope of practice (CSP, 2017).
- ◇ Additional insurance through employer as a private limited company.

Training (Mandatory / Statutory)

- ◇ Depends which are appropriate to the role. However, they need to be sourced independently e.g. safeguarding, manual handling, CPR / first aid
- ◇ Some can be funded from the employer if it is mandatory/statutory. This may vary from each company please check with HR.

Record Keeping

- ◇ All physiotherapists should adhere to HCPC standards (HCPC, 2013)¹ and CSP guidelines (CSP, 2017)² with regards to record-keeping.
- ◇ Any client documentation is kept on an internal and protected company software system. Some use a software system called CRM.
- ◇ Some physiotherapists continue to use SOAP notes as well, as it can be most effective.

Terms and Conditions

- ◇ All are covered by the specific private limited company and stated in the job contract.

Other

The above are some of the factors to consider when thinking about being a therapist within a more commercial role for a Private Limited Company

APCP

<https://apcp.csp.org.uk>

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