

Dawn N. Chambers, PT, DPT

Physical Therapy Expert Witness | Standard of Care | Personal Injury | SNF Negligence
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PT Compact Licensed: South Carolina | North Carolina | Virginia

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Doctor of Physical Therapy with over 20 years of active, multi-setting clinical experience, currently practicing full-time in telehealth and part-time in skilled nursing and disability services. Clinical expertise spans motor vehicle collision rehabilitation, post-surgical and orthopedic care, SNF fall prevention, transfer and mobility safety, and institutional standard of care consulting.

Experienced in reviewing medical records, evaluating standard of care compliance, and assessing whether physical therapy documentation, supervision decisions, mobility progression, and patient handling met accepted professional standards. Available for record review, written expert opinions, and deposition testimony for both plaintiff and defense.

AREAS OF EXPERT OPINION

Motor Vehicle Collision & Personal Injury

- Physical therapy standard of care following a motor vehicle collision
- Appropriateness and progression of MVC rehabilitation treatment
- Functional impairment assessment and long-term rehabilitation needs
- Documentation compliance in personal injury cases

Skilled Nursing Facility Negligence & Fall Safety

- SNF fall risk assessment and fall prevention protocol standards
- Supervision level appropriateness in skilled nursing settings
- Transfer techniques, gait belt use, and patient handling standards
- Assistive device selection, progression, and safety compliance
- Discharge planning and mobility safety readiness
- Wheelchair seating, positioning, and mobility device safety

Disability Services Agency & DSP Supervision Standards

- Standard of care for mobility assistance and transfer safety in group home and residential settings
- Direct support professional (DSP) supervision standards and training adequacy
- Agency-level fall risk protocols and compliance assessment
- Environmental safety and mobility hazard evaluation

Telehealth Physical Therapy Standards

- Telehealth PT standard of care and appropriate scope of remote practice
- Safety protocols and supervision standards in remote PT delivery
- Medicare documentation compliance in telehealth settings

Additional Areas

- Ergonomic injury and workplace-related mobility limitations
- Post-surgical rehabilitation standard of care
- PT documentation review and regulatory compliance
- Interdisciplinary care coordination and safety planning

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sentara Health | *Telehealth Physical Therapist* | March 2023 – Present

- Full-time telehealth practice providing evaluation and treatment to motor vehicle collision, orthopedic, post-surgical, and women's health patients
- Assess functional mobility limitations, pain-related impairments, and injury causation in personal injury populations
- Develop and implement care progressions consistent with evidence-based PT standards for post-surgical and MVC rehabilitation
- Apply telehealth-specific safety and supervision standards in remote clinical delivery
- Maintain Medicare-compliant documentation aligned with regulatory requirements

Life Care Center of Columbia | *Physical Therapist — Skilled Nursing (PRN)* | February 2023 – Present

- Evaluate medically complex SNF patients for fall risk, supervision requirements, and discharge readiness
- Conduct fall risk assessments and develop mobility safety plans for high-risk populations
- Assess transfer techniques, gait safety, and assistive device appropriateness
- Develop and implement fall prevention protocols in collaboration with interdisciplinary teams
- Document care plans in compliance with Medicare and SNF regulatory standards

Spectrum Physical Therapy | *Physical Therapy Consultant* | September 2013 – Present

- Serve as agency-level clinical consultant for adults with physical and intellectual disabilities in group home and residential settings
- Conduct fall risk assessments and mobility evaluations for the agency and its client population
- Develop and deliver staff in-service training for direct support professionals (DSPs) on transfer safety, gait assistance, mobility supervision, and fall prevention protocols
- Assess environmental safety factors affecting mobility, fall risk, and equipment use
- Provide wheelchair seating and positioning evaluations focused on safety and functional mobility
- Advise agency leadership on standard of care compliance for mobility and patient handling

Carolina Women's Physical Therapy & Wellness | *Clinic Director & Physical Therapist* | July 2012 – March 2023

- Directed clinical operations with oversight of documentation quality and regulatory compliance
- Provided orthopedic rehabilitation with emphasis on safe functional mobility progression
- Supervised clinical staff and mentored physical therapy students in evaluation and treatment planning
- Implemented documentation workflow systems to improve accuracy and consistency

Prisma Health Richland Rehab Center | *Physical Therapist* | February 2005 – April 2011

- Treated orthopedic and neurological populations with balance and mobility impairments
- Developed and implemented a fall and hip fracture prevention program
- Conducted wheelchair seating evaluations emphasizing safety and mobility outcomes
- Served as a clinical instructor for physical therapy students

EDUCATION

Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) — A.T. Still University

Master of Physical Therapy — Medical College of Georgia/Augusta University

Bachelor of Arts, Movement and Sport Science — Purdue University

LICENSURE & COMPACT STATUS

PT Compact Member — Active licensure in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia

TEACHING & PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- Clinical Instructor for Doctor of Physical Therapy students
 - Staff in-service educator: transfer safety, mobility standards, fall prevention, and supervision protocols for direct care professionals
 - Documentation quality oversight and regulatory compliance program development
 - Workforce training in patient handling and assistive device safety standards
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Physical therapy standard of care | Skilled nursing facility negligence | SNF fall | Fall risk assessment | Fall prevention protocol | Gait belt injury | Transfer injury | Hoyer lift | Supervision standard of care | Mobility safety | Assistive device progression | Patient handling | Discharge planning | Post-acute rehabilitation | Motor vehicle collision | MVC rehabilitation | Personal injury PT | Post-surgical rehabilitation | Orthopedic physical therapy | Telehealth physical therapy | Telehealth standard of care | Remote PT evaluation | Home health PT | Wheelchair seating | Disability physical therapy | Direct support professional training | Group home negligence | Agency standard of care | Ergonomic injury | Workplace injury | Workers' compensation | Physical therapy malpractice | Medical malpractice | Documentation compliance | Medicare compliance | South Carolina | North Carolina | Virginia