

Diploma in Physiotherapy

Graduates of the Diploma in Physiotherapy are competent health science professionals who possess the knowledge and skills to therapeutically manage and prevent problems arising from disorders related to movement affecting the human body. Being focused on providing quality health care, physiotherapists implement evidence-based techniques to correct and/or manage dysfunction of the human body and various disabilities for people of all age groups.

Course Aims

The course is designed to offer students a comprehensive learning and practical experience to function as fully competent physiotherapists on graduation. Through lectures, tutorials, practical sessions and clinical education, the course will equip the students with:

- ❖ the knowledge of body mechanics, health promotion, biological and behavioural sciences of disease process and physiotherapy concepts to manage disability;
- ❖ an understanding of the legal and ethical aspects of professional practice;
- ❖ the ability to comprehensively assess, critically analyse and accurately interpret a variety of musculoskeletal, cardio-pulmonary, neurological, sports-related, gerontological and other impairments;
- ❖ therapeutic skills and confidence to implement evidence-based physiotherapy programmes for all age groups;
- ❖ the ability to work independently within a variety of healthcare and community settings; and
- ❖ the scientific knowledge and exposure to conduct clinical research

Duration

3 academic years on a full-time basis

Career Prospects

Opportunities are abundant for the graduate with a Diploma in Physiotherapy from Nanyang Polytechnic. Not only are physiotherapists independent practitioners who can work in hospitals, rehabilitation centres, sports clinics, specialist centers for management of cancer and heart conditions, psychiatric centers, community health care centres, home for the elderly sick and in wellness clinics, they can also find career opportunities in research facilities, educational institutions and healthcare management sectors.

The physiotherapist's clients may range from elite sports individuals to the frail elderly, and the work environment may vary from hydrotherapy pools to the sports field. The key objective is to rehabilitate clients so as to enable them to achieve maximal or optimal independence in movement and function.

There are ample opportunities for continuous education and further specialisation. Specialist post-graduate programmes are available in areas such as orthopaedics, paediatrics, cardiorespiratory physiotherapy, gerontology, women's health, sports physiotherapy, neurosciences, health promotion, manual therapy, hand rehabilitation and health care management. Degree conversion programmes are also available both locally and overseas for the physiotherapy graduate.

The Diploma in Physiotherapy at Nanyang Polytechnic has been given accreditation by the Singapore Physiotherapy Association, a member of the World Confederation of Physical Therapy. This affiliation permits the graduates to practise worldwide, subject to local regulations.