Minimum Competency Profile of the Orthotic/Prosthetic Technician

September 2018

Introduction

The following profile was developed and used to help identify the skills necessary to become a CBCPO Registered Technician in Orthotics RTO(c) or Registered Technician in Prosthetics RTP(c) in Canada. The development of the Minimum Competency Profile is an important step in the Exam Blueprint Process. It includes detailed descriptors which demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and abilities that are expected from a candidate.

During the Exam Blueprint Project, Orthotics Prosthetics Canada has used the Minimum Competency Profile to evaluate candidate performance and identify the standard for each station. This standard is established through a systematic process by a panel of subject matter experts, and indicates the minimum requirementsfor meeting basic safety, professionalism and ethical standards of practice. It also safeguards the protection of the public. The Minimally Competent candidate belongs to the group that just qualifies for Registration.

Orthotics Prosthetics Canada is testing to the level of the Minimum Competency Profile knowledge and skills, as identified in the green column below.

Minimum Competency Profile of the ORTHOTIC / PROSTHETIC TECHNICIAN

BELOW MINIMALLY QUALIFIED	MINIMALLY COMPETENT/ QUALIFIED	ABOVE MINIMALLY / QUALIFIED
Is unable to identify design, materials, and components to support treatment plan	Is able to identify design materials, and components to support treatment plan	
Does not recognize manufacture recommendations and may endanger patient	Understands to adhere to manufacture recommendations to ensure patient safety	
May be able to choose materials to fabricate device, but does not recognize ramifications of material selection related to safety and function	Has basic understanding of principles used to select components and materials to provide a safe functional device and is aware material selection impacts patient outcomes	
Is unable to facilitate the fabrication/assembly of orthosis/prosthesis in order to prepare for initial or diagnostic fitting and/or delivery	Is able to understand and facilitate the fabrication/assembly of orthosis/prosthesis in order to prepare for initial or diagnostic fitting and/or delivery	Is able to fabricate/assemble orthosis/prosthesis in order to prepare for initial or diagnostic fitting and/or delivery
Is unable to assess device for structural safety and ensure that manufacturers' guidelines have been followed prior to patient fitting/delivery	Is able to assess device for structural safety and ensure that manufacturers' guidelines have been followed prior to patient fitting/delivery	
Is unable to properly align device in all planes, although some planes may be correctly aligned. They may also misunderstand biomechanical principles related to alignment	In able to assess/align orthosis/prosthesis for accuracy in sagittal, transverse, and coronal planes in order to provide maximum function/comfort	
Does not ensure that materials, design, and components are provided as specified in the treatment plan	Is able to ensure that materials, design, and components are provided as specified in the treatment plan	Is able to evaluate treatment plan and modify materials, design, and components if necessary
Does not understand fabrication process	Is able to understand and facilitate the fabrication process after achieving optimal fit and function or orthosis/prosthesis (e.g., convert test socket to definitive orthosis/prosthesis)	Is able to complete fabrication process after achieving optimal fit and function or orthosis/prosthesis (.e.g., convert test socket to definitive orthosis/prosthesis)

Minimum Competency Profile of the ORTHOTIC / PROSTHETIC TECHNICIAN		
BELOW MINIMALLY QUALIFIED	**MINIMALLY COMPETENT/ QUALIFIED**	**ABOVE MINIMALLY / QUALIFIED**
May ignore safety steps	Is able to re-assess orthosis/prosthesis for structural safety prior to patient delivery	
Documentation lacks details	Is able to document treatment using established record-keeping techniques to verify implementation of treatment plan	
Is unable to make or supervise modifications to orthosis/prosthesis (e.g., relieve pressure, change range of motion, change alignment, change components, add pressure-sensitive pad)	Is able to make or supervise modifications to orthosis/prosthesis (e.g., relieve pressure, change range of motion, change alignment, change components, add pressure-sensitive pad)	
Is unable to evaluate results of modifications to orthosis/prosthesis	Is able to evaluate results of modifications to orthosis/prosthesis	
Is unable to evaluate results of modifications to orthosis/prosthesis, including static and dynamic assessment	Is able to evaluate results of modifications to orthosis/prosthesis, including static and dynamic assessment	
Has narrowly focused short-term plan	Adequately produces a long-term plan is more specific to the orthosis /prosthesis. Includes adequate documentation	Develops comprehensive long-term plan with justification. Incorporates multi-disciplinary approach
Doesn't have knowledge to plan, implement, evaluate and document policies and procedures in compliance with all applicable federal and provincial laws and regulations and professional and ethical guidelines	Does have knowledge to plan, implement, evaluate and document policies and procedures in compliance with all applicable federal and provincial laws and regulations and professional and ethical guidelines	
Is unable to create a professional, cooperative working environment to improve patient care	Is able to create a professional, cooperative working environment to improve patient care	