

Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine

DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL MEDICINE, BIOETHICS, OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE AND PHYSICAL AND REHABILITATION MEDICINE

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine, also known as Physiatry, is a medical specialty dedicated to the diagnosis, evaluation and care of people of all ages who experience disability. This art involves the diagnosis and treatment of patients with disabling health conditions and aims to assist them to achieve their full bio-psycho-social potential, embracing physical, functional, psychological and social factors.

It recovers what is possible, adapts what is not (or does it until it is), and trains and supports people to face their new reality. In rehabilitation, diagnosis is carried out by clinical methods and additional assessments. Providing rehabilitation care involves the use of preventive and therapeutic measures, training, and support, with attention to risk factors, preexisting comorbidities and impairments.

Therapeutic measures involve the use of medications, clinical procedures, rehabilitation therapies, and assistive technology (orthotics, prosthetics, and mobility aids), besides rehabilitation technologies such as rehabilitation robotics for upper and lower extremities.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course aims to prepare students to acknowledge the most important factors that interfere in assessing and treating impairments and disability, through a clinical approach, including medical and therapeutic interventions.

TEACHING METHODS

- Students should improve their ability to assist patients using a comprehensive approach, considering their bio-psycho-social context.
- The course focuses on functional assessments and is oriented towards disabling pain syndromes, brain and spinal cord injuries, amputations, cerebral palsy and cancer rehabilitation.
- This knowledge, skills and attitudes are transmitted through theoretical and practical classes offered at the in- and outpatient services of the Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine Institute of the University of São Paulo Medical School General Hospital.
- Classes consist of a 30 minute lecture followed by a monitored clinical and practical session, which count on the participation – when feasible, and as indicated in the course’s program – of volunteer patients. All classes are only concluded after a group discussion on the subject and an individual assessment of that session’s content.
- Besides a daily evaluation for immediate feedback, students will have a final test by the end of the course.

- During the course, other facilities of our institute will be visited, which include outreach rehabilitation units in the community and an inpatient rehabilitation center.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Medical students who are compassionate and eager to effectively address the major demands of the world of Psychiatry.

Previous classes gathered medical students from 2nd to 8th semester of their medical course, coming from Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, France, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, United Kingdom, Uruguay, and the USA.

FACULTY: Prof. Dr. Marta Imamura, Prof. Dr. Linamara Rizzo Battistella
Professors and health care team from Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine Institute

COURSE MATERIAL:

Literature references and supporting materials (including slide decks, videos, and other media files) will be shared online, using Google Classroom resources.

PREREQUISITES:

Not applicable. Medical students enrolled from the 3rd semester on are preferred.