

## **CHRISTOPHER VENUS, PT, MPT, NCS**

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BUSINESS: UPMC Centers for Rehab Services Phone: (412)586-6900  
UPMC Mercy – South Side  
2000 Mary Street  
Suite 1218, First Floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15203

### **PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION:**

Baccalaureate in Health Sciences 5/93  
Duquesne University  
Pittsburgh, PA

Masters in Physical Therapy 8/94  
Duquesne University  
Pittsburgh, PA

Professional License:  
Licensed Physical Therapist – Pennsylvania #PT-008675-L

### **Certification:**

American Heart Association: Basic Life Support  
NDT Certified  
APTA Certified Clinical Instructor (3/07)  
APTA Certified Neurological Clinical Specialist (7/08)  
APTA Certified Advanced Clinical Instructor (8/08)

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

Physical Therapy Residency Program Director 9/08-present  
UPMC Centers for Rehab Services

Provides physical therapy assessment and treatment using advanced clinical skills in the specialty area of neurology. Serves as the coordinator for the neurologic residency program.

- Responsible for annual reports regarding residency to APTA.
- Responsible for ensuring the smooth transition of the resident from one clinical site to another.
- Responsible for the coordination and instruction of the clinical faculty/mentors involved in the neuro residency.



- Involvement with patient and service satisfaction.
- Active participation in Performance Improvement activities to enhance patient outcomes by the time of hospital discharge.

Senior Clinician, Assistive Technology and Spinal Cord Injury      09/03- 09/06  
HealthSouth Harmarville Rehabilitation Hospital

Acts as a consultant and resource person for the physical therapy staff, conducts clinical research, as time permits educates staff, students and the community on current information in the specialty area, and develops and updates treatment protocols to enhance clinical skills and advance clinical practice of the physical therapy staff. Performs duties and responsibilities of a staff physical therapist.

- Schedules inservices to promote education and competency among the physical therapy staff.
- Involvement in research projects to improve the treatment and life of those individuals with spinal cord injuries.

Team Leader, Spinal Cord Injury Unit      05/06 – 09/06  
HealthSouth Harmarville Rehabilitation Hospital

Responsible for immediate management of the physical therapy staff on the spinal cord injury unit. This includes patient assignments, punch detail reporting, direct management of the staff, yearly performance review reporting and weekly meetings with the Director of Rehabilitation Services, as well as input on equipment purchasing for the department.

Staff Physical Therapist, Spinal Cord Injury Inpatient      9/94 – 7/96, 1/99 – 09/03  
Outpatient      7/96 – 1/99  
HealthSouth Harmarville Rehabilitation Hospital

Evaluates patient's mobility and motor assets and liabilities for functional performance. Provides goal directed, activity oriented treatment to promote optimum independence in functional mobility and daily life tasks. Ensures continuation of performance through effective education of the patient, family or support system. Provides adaptive methods and equipment as appropriate to enhance performance.

- Treats individuals primarily with spinal cord injuries, but also involved in the treatment of those individuals with multiple sclerosis, stroke, Guillian Barre', miscellaneous neurological disorders, orthopedic disorders, amputees and brain injuries.
- Attends weekly staffing conferences, including the whole rehabilitation team.

- Participates in the Assistive Technology Program wheelchair evaluation clinics with local vendors, and responsible for ordering appropriate durable medical equipment.
- Participant in the aquatic physical therapy program.
- Involvement in the Chronic Pain Management Program.
- Participation in Baclofen trial evaluation.

Casual Pool Physical Therapist 2/98 – 5/00  
 Western Pennsylvania Hospital  
 Pittsburgh, PA

- Involved in the evaluation and treatment of acute and sub-acute care inpatients.

Home Health Physical Therapist 5/95 – 11/95  
 Home Health Services of Allegheny County  
 Pittsburgh, PA

- Involved in the evaluation and treatment of home-bound individuals of various diagnoses.

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

Active member of the American Physical Therapy Association, including membership in the Neurology section since 2007. 1993 – Present

Performance as a Clinical Instructor for physical therapy students. 1994 – Present

Performance as a Clinical Evaluator for matriculation examinations at the University of Pittsburgh and at Duquesne University. 1997 – Present

Lecturer on various spinal cord injury related topics at Duquesne University, the University of Pittsburgh and Slippery Rock University, as well as at local physical therapy assistant programs. 1995 – Present

Participant in the H.O.P.E. Network, a community program that promotes a health and active lifestyle by providing those with disabilities a means to actively participate in programs such as water skiing, snow skiing, wheelchair basketball, wheelchair tennis and hand cycling, just to name a few. 1994 – 2007

Instructor for the back injury prevention seminar at HealthSouth 1996 – 2001

Harmarville Rehabilitation Hospital.

Attendance at the *Shoulder Pain in Wheelchair Users* course by the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Pittsburgh, PA. 5/97

Performance as a research advisor for Chatham College physical therapy students, studying perceived exertion for those individuals with spinal cord injuries. 1997

### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES (Con't)**

Attendance at the *Hartford Ski Spectacular* by DSUSA in Breckenridge, CO to learn to teach downhill skiing to individuals with disabilities. 12/97

Attendance at the *Interdisciplinary Rehabilitation Management in SCI* in Hagerstown, MD which was presented by RIC. 12/98

Attendance at the *Principles of Wheeled Mobility* by the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Pittsburgh, PA. 10/99

Presented the seating and wheeled mobility portion of the *ABILITIES/POSSIBILITIES – Opening Doors to Successful Outcomes*, a presentation to the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, held by the Assistive Technology Team at HealthSouth Harmarville in Pittsburgh, PA. 4/02

Presented the portion concerning ambulation and wheeled mobility at a *Spinal Cord Injury* conference presented at Allegheny General Hospital. 6/02

Clinical evaluator in a *Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled 12 Week Parallel Group Study to Evaluate Safety and Efficacy of Oral Fampridine-SR in Subjects with Moderate to Severe Spasticity Resulting From Chronic, Incomplete Spinal Cord Injury*. 2002 – 2003

Attendance at MEDTRADE expositions to learn about the latest in wheeled mobility and rehabilitation medical equipment, as well as the most recent trends in reimbursement. 10/95, 10/97  
10/02, 10/05

Presented to a multidisciplinary team regarding the physical therapy portion of the course *Spinal Cord Injury: A Multidisciplinary Approach*, sponsored by HealthSouth. This course was presented in Charlottesville, VA and Plano, TX respectively. 10/04, 11/04

Co-presenter for Clinical Connections Continuing Education series at UPMC South Side Hospital regarding current literature regarding 1/07

body weight supported treadmill training and its application to treatment.

Active mentor in Neurological Residency Program at UPMC in the outpatient clinical setting. 5/08-present

Attended and Co-Presented *Creative Community Reintegration: Blending the Continuum* at the Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems Symposium in Pittsburgh, PA 10/08

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES (Con't)**

Attendance at APTA Combined Sections Meeting 2/09, 2/10, 2/11  
1/12, 2/13, 2/14

Accredited in the use of the Lokomat system by an official Hocoma representative at UPMC Mercy, Pittsburgh, PA 9/09

Attended *Parkinson's Disease and other Movement Disorders, an Update for the Clinical Practitioner* by UPMC in Pittsburgh, PA 5/08, 6/09

Accredited in the use of the Walk Aide system by an official Innovative Neurotronics representative at UPMC IRR outpatient, Pittsburgh, PA 7/09

Attendance at *Activity Based Restorative Therapy: applied in spinal cord injury*. presentation at the International Spinal Center for Spinal Cord Injury at Kennedy Krieger Institute in Baltimore, MD 9/09

Attendance at *Relearning Kinesia Treatment for Parkinson's Disease and Related Movement Disorders* course in Pittsburgh, PA 10/09

Presented to local neurologic-focused therapists on the appropriateness and use of the Walk Aide system to improve gait. CEU's applied for. 12/09

Presented at APTA CSM on *Functional Electrical Stimulation and Central Nervous System Disorders: The Responses of Different Patient Populations to Peroneal Nerve FES When Used Alone or in Combination With Other Treatment Modalities*. Responsible for the course content that focused on spinal cord injury. 2/11

Attendance at the Annual Symposium on Regenerative Rehabilitation in Pittsburgh, PA 11/11, 11/12

American Board of Physical Therapy Residency & Fellowship Education Program Services Committee member 2012 – 2014

- Presented at UPMC Mercy Brain Injury Conference on the use of Peroneal nerve stimulus to improve walking in neurologically involved patients. 11/13
- Presented at PPTA Southwest District sponsored Mini-CSM regarding functional progression in ambulation in those individuals with spinal cord injuries entitled *Spinal Cord Injury and Ambulation*. 3/14
- Participation as a Clinical Expert witness involving a legal case in New Jersey regarding proper technique for treating an individual with a spinal cord injury. This involved creating a document to refute the plaintiff's expert witness. 2014 - present
- Participation as a faculty in the UPMC Geriatric Residency program, which involves mentoring the geriatric resident during the outpatient rotation of the program. 2014 – present
- Co-Presenter at UPMC Mercy Spinal Cord Injury Conference regarding case studies and in importance of correct and appropriate wheelchair seating. 5/14/16