**NEUROLOGIC PHYSICAL THERAPY RESIDENCY PROGRAM  
FAQs**

**What is unique about Casa Colina's Neuro Residency Program?**Casa Colina’s program offers residents the opportunity to gain clinical experience with mentorship in 3 different areas of practice (inpatient, outpatient, and transitional living) with a variety of patient populations. Residents benefit from mentoring with skilled clinicians with various areas of expertise; each resident has a minimum of three mentors throughout the year-long program. Designed to model the demands and responsibilities of practicing clinicians, the program requires residents to be self directed in designing their activities for the year. This allows for a more personalized program that is tailored to the interests of each individual resident.

**What are resident directed activities?**Resident directed activities include a wide variety of opportunities; self selected to meet the needs and achieve personal goals of the resident. These activities are the resident’s responsibility to plan and execute with guidance and assistance from the program faculty as needed. Sample activities to choose from are: education (teaching in local DPT programs, student lectures on campus, staff in-services), research (journal club, engaging in current research projects at Casa Colina or developing a new research question), and professional and community development (involvement in local/state/national PT association activities, community service events). The resident may present other resident directed activities as appropriate; approval is required by the program director.

**When does the program begin?**The clinical portion of the program begins late July in Pomona, CA. Prior to the on-site start date, the resident will begin participation in the webinar series with the Neurologic Physical Therapy Professional Education Consortium (www.ptneuroconsortium.org).

**When is the application deadline?**The application deadline is April 1 annually. Selected applicants will be notified by the end of April regarding an onsite interview in May.

**Are residents paid during the program?**Residents are compensated for all clinical care hours (typically 24 hrs/week); benefits are negotiable.

**What is a typical schedule for a resident?**During a typical week, the resident works for 3 days in clinical practice including 3-4 hours of mentor sessions. The remainder of the week is spent completing resident directed activities as determined by the resident and program faculty, and participating in the Neurologic Physical Therapy Professional Education Consortium.

**Where do residents practice during the program?**Residents rotate through 3 clinical settings at Casa Colina’s Pomona campus during the year-long program.

1. *Inpatient Rehabilitation*: Residents will primarily see patients with Brain Injury and Stroke. The resident shares the role of e primary therapist with another staff member and will work closely with an interdisciplinary team. The resident will direct care for 11-13 patients with the assistance of a Physical Therapist Assistant.
2. *Transitional Living Center*: This residential and day treatment facility provides 5 hours of therapy 6 days per week to persons with Stroke, Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury. Similar to inpatient rehabilitation, the resident will share the responsibilities of a case-load with another therapist. The resident will start on the Spinal Cord Injury team and have the option to transition to one of the two Brain Injury/Stroke teams midway through this experience. You will be part of an interdisciplinary team consisting of speech therapy, occupational therapy, neuropsychology and recreation therapy. Most of the care is provided in a group setting with regular community outings.
3. *Outpatien*t: Residents will see patients with a variety of diagnoses. Special emphasis will be placed on patients with vestibular and chronic neurologic diseases (eg. Parkinsons, Multiple Sclerosis)

**What is the Neurologic Consortium?**Objectives of the Neurologic Physical Therapy Professional Education Consortium include preparing participants for specialization in neurologic PT with a focus on clinical reasoning and evidence based practice. It includes 26 webinars and 8 days of onsite coursework in Los Angeles, CA between July and December. Participation in a journal club is available in the spring. For additional details click on ptneuroconsoritum.org

**What is required of applicants to apply to the program?**Applicants must have graduated from a CAPTE accredited physical therapy education program with a valid license to practice in the state of California. Additional application requirements are found on the ABPTRFE applicant website: http://www.abptrfe.org/RFPTCAS/ApplicantWebsite/

**Are applicants required to have their PT license?**Yes. All residents must have a PT license in the state of California prior to clinical start date. For new graduates, residents must have PTLA status to begin the program. Failure to pass the licensure exam on the first scheduled attempt will result in dismissal from the program.

**Are residents expected and qualified to take the NCS exam?**Residents are expected to take the NCS exam withing 1-2 years of graduating from the residency program. Casa Colina’s Neurologic Residency Program is credentialed by the ABPTRFE and is designed to incorporate the concepts included in the description of specialty practice guidelines for neurologic PT. The Neurologic Physical Therapy Professional Education Consortium component of the program also emphasizes concepts addressed in the NCS exam. Graduation from an ABPTRFE accredited program automatically allows one to take the exam.

**Is an interview required for applicants?**Yes. Interview will be held on site at Casa Colina in May each year and will include a session with a patient, completing a documentation sample, and a panel interview. Select applicants will be invited to interview following review of all online applications.

**Who are the program faculty and mentors?  
  
Program Directors** **Faculty**  
Stephanie Kaplan, PT, DPT, ATP Erin Yamazaki, PT, DPT, ATP  
Cathy Timple, PT, DPT, NCS, ATP Rachel Tran, PT, DPT, NCS  
 Marie Yeseta, PT, DPT, NCS

**Who can applicants contact for additional information?**Please contact Stephanie Kaplan at skaplan@casacolina.org