

Below are core competencies based upon the 2000 study conducted by the American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics, Inc. (ABC) titled “Practice Analysis of the Disciplines of Orthotics and Prosthetics.” For more details and specifics on competencies, knowledge, and skills, summit participants should reference pages 34, 35 and 36 of the study.

Patient Assessment

Perform a comprehensive assessment of the patient to obtain an understanding of patient’s orthotic/prosthetic needs.

Formulation of the Treatment Plan

Create a comprehensive orthotic/prosthetic treatment plan to meet the needs and goals of the patient

Implementation of the Treatment Plan

Perform the necessary procedures to deliver the appropriate orthotic/prosthetic services, including fabrication

Follow-up Treatment Plan

Provide continuing patient care and periodic evaluation to assure/maintain/document optimal fit and function of the orthoses/prosthesis.

Practice Management

Develop, implement, and/or monitor policies and procedures regarding human resource management, physical environment management, business/financial management, and organizational management

Promotion of Competency and Enhancement of Professional Practice

Participate in personal and professional development through continuing education, training, research and organizational affiliations.

In preparation for the summit meeting the planning committee reviewed and considered areas where O&P's body of knowledge and core competencies may have or need to expand in the future. The committee looked at other allied health models available.

The expanded areas listed below were taken from the American Physical Therapy Association's publication "*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 97.*"

Individual and Cultural Differences

Be sensitive to individual and cultural differences when engaged in O&P practice, research and education.

Communication

Expressively and receptively communicate with patients, family, caregivers, practitioners, consumers, payers and policymakers.

Critical Inquiry and Clinical Decision Making

- 1. Participate in the design and implementation of decision making-guidelines.*
- 2. Demonstrate clinical decision-making skills, including clinical reasoning, clinical judgments and reflective practice.*
- 3. Critically evaluate published studies related to O&P practice, research and education.*
- 4. Secure and critically evaluate information related to new and established techniques and technology, legislation, policy, and environments related to patient care.*
- 5. Participate in collaborative research in order to contribute to the body of O&P knowledge.*

Education

- 1. Educate others using a variety of teaching methods that are commensurate with the needs and unique characteristics of the learner.*
- 2. Participate in clinical/residency education.*

Outcomes Assessment and Evaluation

Implement an evaluation of patient outcomes.

Administration

Participate in budgeting, billing and reimbursement activities.

Participate in the implementation of an established marketing plan and related public relations activities.

Consultation

Provide consultation (advice based on expertise) to individuals, businesses, schools, government agencies or other organizations.