

# PROFILE OF THE STELLENBOSCH PHYSIOTHERAPIST

The recently graduated Stellenbosch Physiotherapist will have the basic knowledge and skills to function in the South African health context as a reflective practitioner within the philosophy and values intrinsic to the Physiotherapy profession.

This philosophy and values of the physiotherapy profession are encapsulated in three domains, namely, professional accountability, client management and the organisation of services. The qualities of the graduated physiotherapist are reflected as follows within the 3 domains. The student will:

## **Professional accountability**

- Be ethically accountable towards the profession, client and community
- Execute a safe, effective and professional practice
- Demonstrate a positive attitude in terms of continued professional development.
- Develop interpersonal relationships
- Comprehend the importance of involvement with professional organisations.
- Communicate appropriately and effectively with clients, family members as well as with other members of the interdisciplinary team.

## **Patient Management**

- Demonstrate knowledge of the normal and abnormal functioning of the human body and psyche
- Show insight in terms of the impact of cultural environment on the outcomes of health services.
- Possess the necessary skills to evaluate a client's status (physical, functional and psychological), to analyse his/her needs and be able to set a physiotherapy diagnosis and prognosis.
- Be able to develop an outcomes-based intervention plan and to implement it based on evidence-based practice.
- Should be able to re-evaluate the effectiveness of this intervention and incorporate the findings in future practice.

## **Organisation of services**

- Should be able to plan, implement and evaluate appropriate, cost-effective physiotherapy services within the South African health context
- Use, analyse and improve appropriate technology to support current services.