



A Clinic-Specific Protocol Manual

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Description of DCE Site

Advanced Therapy Center (ATC)

- An outpatient hand setting that has been established since 2003 serving the community in treating a variety of diagnoses related to the upper extremity

Population Served & Funding Resources

- Population: adolescent & adult population
- Funding Resources: accepts out-of-pocket payments & all major insurance providers, such as HMOs and PPOs, for reimbursement

Mission Statement:

"We provide high-level, evidence-based care, resulting in our patients returning to the activities they need to do. We believe healthcare should focus on the whole being, not just the diagnosis, and that teamwork to reach our patients' goals is essential to long-term success."(Advanced Therapy Center, 2022)

Learning Objectives

1. By the 11th week of the DCE, the capstone student obtained extensive knowledge of a newly FDA-approved device and the components of its specific evidence-based protocol
2. By the end of the DCE, the capstone student obtained an entry-level client caseload to improve clinical skills and concepts applied during treatment.
3. By the end of the DCE, the capstone student created and implemented an evidenced-based, site-specific protocol manual for commonly treated diagnoses within the clinic to promote the standardization and efficiency of treatment, resulting in optimal patient care.

Process Evaluation

A Mixed-Method Approach

- Surveys measured the following:
 - Frequency of referencing material
 - Level of confidence in treating the clinic's most common diagnoses
 - Additional data relevant to the clinic
- Semi-structured interviews measure qualitative data, including:
 - Benefits of implementing site-specific protocols
 - Additional suggestions for manual development
- Pre-protocol survey: before first staff meeting
- Post-protocol survey: after final staff meeting

Qualitative Results

Semi-Structured Interviews

1v1 interview responses produced the following two main themes:

1. Benefits of staff debrief meetings
 - "I was really excited to try something new that I had learned. I tried the reciprocal contract-relax method...it worked really well for one of my patients." -OT A
2. Outpatient clinic barriers
 - "This has been really helpful because we haven't really had time to share ideas with one another before this." -OT C

Summary of Needs Assessment

Data Collection Methods

- Semi-structured interview
- Online survey
- Participants included both the site director and treating occupational therapists employed at ATC.

Three Needs Identified

- An updated splinting protocol for commonly treated diagnoses
- Administrative marketing aimed to increase patient volume
- A clinic-specific protocol manual involving commonly treated diagnoses

Capstone Description & Implementation

Purpose:

- Development of a clinic-specific protocol manual that improves efficiency and standardization of treatment and patient care.
- Individualized protocols for each diagnosis include the initial evaluation process, brief surgical intervention, and treatment methods
- Incorporated therapist feedback through an intraprofessional collaborative approach



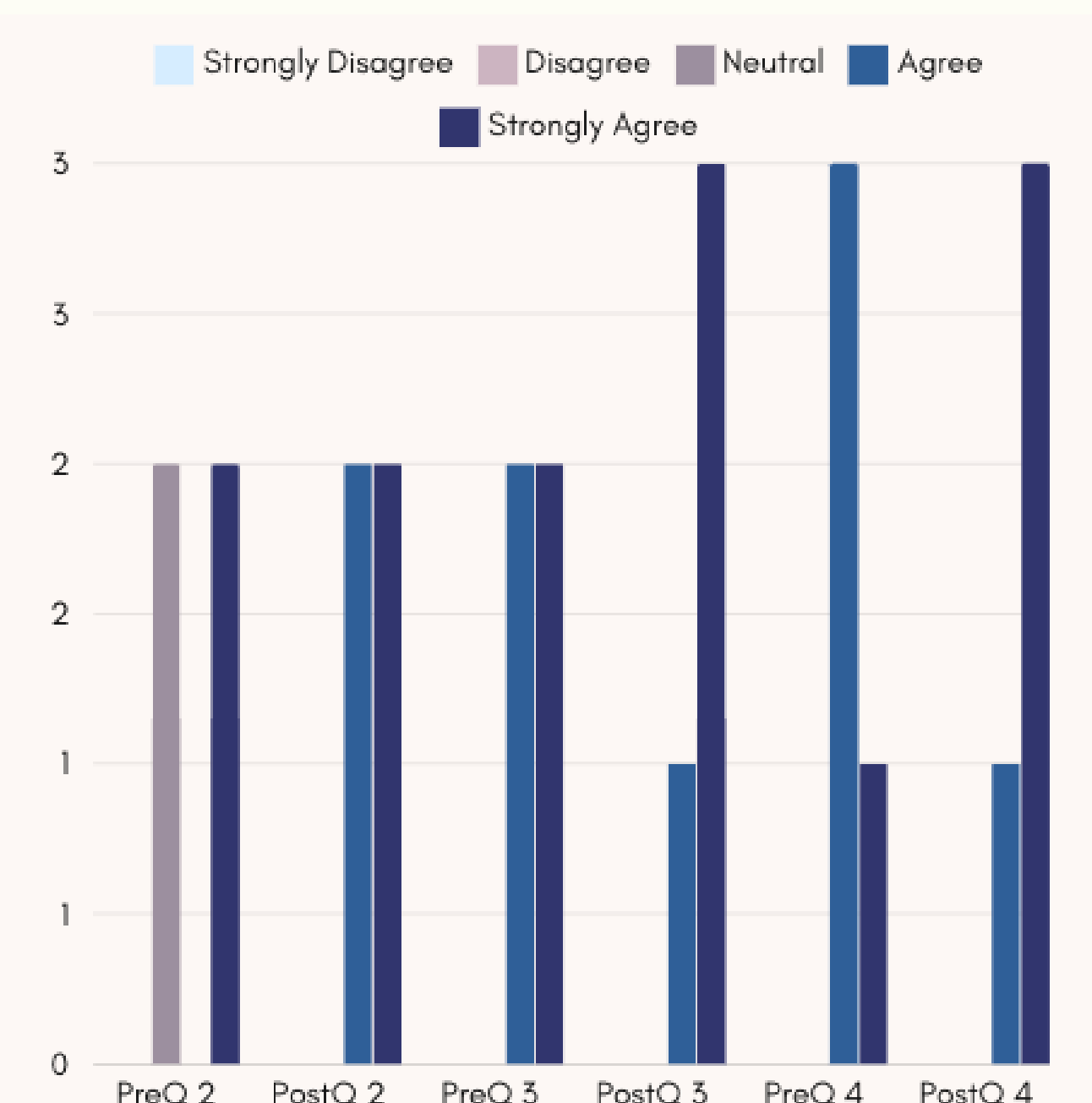
Primary Focus Area: Clinical Practice Skills

- Obtainment of an entry-level client caseload simultaneously to creating the manual to improve clinical skills and concepts that are applied during treatment

Quantitative Results

Pre & Post-Survey

- Total of 4 OT participants
- 5 questions based on a Likert-scale
- Overall increase in unanimous responses (see Appendix G for all responses)



Summary of Deliverables

Treatment Protocol Outline

- Evaluation process
- Provocative testing/outcome measures
- Activity modifications
- Patient education/home exercise programs
- Therapeutic management

Clinic-Specific Protocol Manual

- Contained a total of 12 protocols for the diagnoses commonly treated within the clinic.
- Each protocol includes conservative and post-surgical management



Literature Review

Benefits of a Collaborative Approach Within Rehabilitative Settings

- Improved clinic efficiency (Fasoli et al., 2019)
- Rapid information transfer (Singh et al., 2018)
- Earlier intervention implementation

Strong Patient-Therapist Interaction

- Strong communication skills (O'Keeffe et al., 2016)
- Level of expertise and training (includes patient handling skills)

References & Appendices

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