**PHTA program assessment of -Professional Soft Skills (November 2019)**

Currently, the PHTA program utilizes the APTA (American Physical Therapy Association) Physical Therapy CPI Web program. CPI stands for clinical performance indicators. There are a total of fourteen indicators assessed. Five of these fourteen indicators relate directly to professional soft skills. The students must progress from beginner level to entry level throughout their three clinical field placements. The five indicators include: clinical behavior, accountability, cultural competence, communication, and clinical problem solving. The faculty/clinical coordinator monitors the student progress with these indicators throughout their placements to ensure progress toward entry-level.

The faculty/clinical coordinator also meets with the students and clinical instructors face-to-face during the three clinical placements and asks questions directly related to the students professional skill development (attendance, tardiness, communication with patient’s/staff/co-workers, follow through on work, etc.). Progress toward entry level is expected by the end of their final placement.

Moving forward, PHTA program plans to develop or add a rubric to the seminar III course- PHTA 2155. This will allow the faculty/clinical instructor to assess professional skills in a more formalized/trackable format. The information used to complete the rubric will come from the above named resources, but will allow the data to be collected and tracked more easily. The PHTA Program Director and Clinical Coordinator will determine which soft skills to focus on initially and will expand as appropriate.