

# **ADVANCED VESTIBULAR PHYSICAL THERAPIST CERTIFICATION 2024-2025**

Module 1

## **OBJECTIVES AND SCHEDULE**



University of  
**Pittsburgh**

Department of  
**Physical Therapy**  
School of Health and  
Rehabilitation Sciences

# OBJECTIVES

## **Anatomy, physiology, and lab examinations for persons with peripheral and central vestibular disorders**

1. Gain a better understanding of the underlying anatomical and physiologic characteristics of the vestibular system that can affect patient outcomes in persons living with vestibular disorders.
2. Describe and utilize new information about the VOR in designing treatment programs for persons living with vestibular or balance disorders.
3. Apply the results of vestibular laboratory testing to develop intervention programs for persons with vestibular disorders.
4. Be able to recognize various eye movements associated with peripheral and central vestibular conditions, both common and rare.
5. Identify abnormal VEMP test results and what the results mean related to practice.
6. Choose from various subjective measures to document changes and to identify patient concerns in the patient that they are treating. An example of some of the included tests and measures are the Dizziness Handicap Inventory, the Activities-specific Confidence scale, the Vertigo symptom scale, the Vestibular ADL scale, the Visual vertigo analogue scale, the Niigata PPPD questionnaire, the Vestibular Migraine Patient Assessment Tool and Handicap Inventory, the Life Space questionnaire, the Convergence Insufficiency Scale, and many others.
7. Be able to perform the HINTS, the HINTS plus, the ABCD2, the posterior circulation infarct risk score, STANDING, and discuss timing and triggers of symptoms to assist in making the diagnosis of persons with peripheral or central vestibular disorders.
8. Be exposed to complex cases in acute care and their management.
9. Identify the roles of physical therapists and the knowledge base needed to identify and treat persons with vestibular disorders in an emergency room and in the acute care setting.
10. Gain an understanding of how to choose a targeted outcome measure based on case-based application.
11. Understand the importance of VOR adaptation and the underlying mechanisms that are utilized to increase VOR gain.
12. Be able to apply evidence-based interventions for persons with vestibular hypofunction.
13. Review the action statements of the new vestibular hypofunction clinical practice guideline (CPG) and how that can affect interventions.
14. Be exposed to and interact with decision making in the physical therapy management of complex cases and persons with vestibular hypofunction.

# SCHEDULE

## All times Eastern Standard Time

**July 23, 2024** (7 PM) Introduction, getting on zoom, course set up, get to know the AVPT administrative team and program participants

## **JULY 27, 2024**

**8:00-8:55** Targeted Vestibular System Anatomy Review - Joseph M. Furman, MD, PhD, FAAN

**8:55-9:50** Eye Movement Analysis - David S. Zee, MD

**9:50-10:15** Questions and Answers with Drs. Furman and Zee

**10:15-10:30** Break

**10:30-11:15** Vestibular Lab Testing - Michelle R. Petrak, PhD, CCC-A

**11:15-11:40** VEMP Testing: The Newest in the Practice Guidelines - Terry D. Fife, MD

**11:40-12:10** Hearing and Vestibular Disorders - Lori Zitelli, AuD

**12:10-12:30** Questions and Answers with Drs. Petrak, Fife, and Zitelli

**12:30-1:30** Lunch

**1:30-2:20** Differential Diagnosis in the Emergency Department – Jorge C. Kattah, MD

**2:20-3:15** Role of the Physical Therapist in the Emergency Department and Acute Care - Vicky Stewart, PT, PhD

**3:15-3:30** Break

**3:30-4:25** Vestibular Physical Therapy in Acute Care: Case Management - Lien Van Laer, PT, PhD

**4:25-5:00** Questions and Answers with Drs. Kattah, Stewart, and Van Laer

# SCHEDULE

All times Eastern Standard Time

## **JULY 28, 2024**

**8:00-9:00** New Vestibular Hypofunction Clinical Practice Guideline - Courtney D. Hall, PT, PhD

**9:00-10:00** VOR Adaption in Humans - Michael C. Schubert, PT, PhD, FAPTA

**10:00-10:15** Break

**10:15-11:10** Treatment of Persons with Vestibular Hypofunction - Susan J. Herdman, PT, PhD

**11:10-12:00** Treatment of Persons with Chronic Hypofunction - David Herdman, PT, PhD

**12:00-12:30** Lunch

**12:30-1:30** Questions and Answers with Dr. Hall, S. Herdman, Schubert, and D. Herdman

**August 6, 2024** (7 PM) Fireside Chat with Drs. Fife, Zee, Schubert, and Whitney

**August 13, 2024** (7 PM) Outcome Measures and Self Report Surveys: Case Based Application of Which Test is Optimal for Which Patient Presentation/Self Report Assessments Used to Record Symptoms in Persons with Vestibular Disorders - Susan L. Whitney, DPT, PhD, NCS, ATC, FAPTA