

*Ellen A. Erdman, PT, DPT*  
*Board-Certified Hippotherapy Clinical Specialist (AHCBS),*  
Director of Clinical Education and Clinical Associate Professor,  
Institute for Physical Therapy Education  
College of Health and Human Services  
[Widener University](#)

**Education:**

Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions, Provo, Utah Clinical Doctorate in Physical Therapy	2006
Quinnipiac University, Hamden, Connecticut Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy	1984
Drexel/Hahnemann University, Philadelphia, PA Certificate in Early Intervention	2000

**Licensure Information/Registration Number:**

Pennsylvania PT - 001381-E	1985-present
New Jersey PT - transfer	1984-1986
New York PT - licensure	1984-1986

**Certifications:**

APTA Advanced Credentialed Clinical Instructor	2018-present
HPCS Clinical Specialist in Hippotherapy	2008-present
LSVT-Big Certification	2019-present

**Employment and Positions Held:**

<b>Widener University</b> , Chester, PA Associate Professor of Physical Therapy and Director of Clinical Education	2012-present
<b>Dynamic Home Therapy &amp; NeuroFit</b> , Devon, PA Per Diem Physical Therapist	2021-present
<b>Genesis Rehabilitation Services</b> , West Chester, PA Per Diem Physical Therapist Senior Physical Therapist Staff Physical Therapist	2012-2016 2011-2012 2010-2011
<b>Quest Therapeutic Services, Inc</b> , West Chester, PA Per Diem Physical Therapist Research and Development Coordinator Staff Physical Therapist	2010-present 2008-2010 2005-2007

**Austill's Rehabilitation Services, Inc.** Exton, PA

Independent Contractor	2008-2021
Pediatric/Adult Coordinator	1997-2008
Independent Contractor	1992-1997

**Bryn Mawr Rehabilitation Hospital,** Malvern, PA

Staff Physical Therapist	1985-1992
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**John F. Kennedy Medical Center,** Edison, NJ

Staff Physical Therapist	1984-1985
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**Peer Reviewed Publications:**

**Erdman E**, Black JD. "Comparing Physical Therapy International Clinical Education Experiences in a Developed and Developing Country". *The Journal of Clinical Education in Physical Therapy*. March 2021:35(1)

**Erdman E**, Black JD, Campbell, S, Palombaro K, Golder T, Grazioli S. Investigating the Influence that Service in a Pro Bono Clinic has on a First Full-Time Clinical Education Experience from the Perspective of Students and their Clinical Instructors. *Internet Journal of Allied Health Sciences and Practice*. 2020;18(4) article 3.

**Erdman E**, Peters C, Fields, B. Risks, Incidents and Injuries Related to the Incorporation of Hippotherapy into Clinical Practice: a Qualitative Survey. *Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine*. 2020; 26 (8):743-749.

Palombaro K, **Erdman E**, Dusak, K, Steward A, Jones, Sidney J. High Civic-mindedness Reduces Compassion Fatigue in the First Three Years of Professional Physical Therapist Practice: A Pilot Study". *Journal of Patient Experience*. 2019

Poretta D, Black JD, Palombaro K, **Erdman E**. Influence that service in a pro bono clinic has on a first full-time physical therapy clinical education experience. *Internet Journal of Allied Health Sciences and Practice*. 2017;15(1): Article 11.

**Erdman E**, Pierce S. The use of hippotherapy with a teenage boy s/p traumatic brain injury, a case study. *Pediatric Physical Therapy*. 2016;28:109-116.

**BOOK CHAPTER:**

Willgens A, **Erdman E**. Using hippotherapy strategies for children and youth with cerebral palsy. In: Miller et al, 2nd ed. *Cerebral Palsy*. Philadelphia, PA: Published online Springerlink, Oct. 2018, doi:10.1007/978-3-319-50592-3\_163-1.

**Peer Reviewed Scientific and Professional Presentations:**

Trivinia, B, Black, J, Paterson, M, Campbell, S, **Erdman, E**, *Capitalizing on "Readiness to Learn": Connecting Student Pro Bono Clinic Experiences to Curriculum*. Poster Session. American Occupational Therapy Association Conference, April 4-7, 2019, New Orleans, LA.

Lefebvre K, Wellmon R, Francis, Mary, **Erdman, E**, *Can An Interdisciplinary Mobility Simulation Meet the Objectives of the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC)?: A Qualitative Study*. American Physical Therapy Association 2019 Combined Sections Meeting, Education Section, January 23-26, 2019, Washington, DC.

Dole R, **Erdman E**, *Incorporating Hippotherapy in Pediatric Physical Therapy Practice*. Pennsylvania Physical Therapy Association conference, October 19-21, 2018, Valley Forge, PA.

Dole R, **Erdman E**, Schiller M, Gerig M, Kloos. *Walking the Talk: Student-Run Pro Bono Services Fostering Leadership and Advocacy Skills in the Next Generation of Physical Therapists*. American Physical Therapy Association/American Council on Academic Physical Therapy Education and Leadership Conference, October 2017.

Francis M, Lefebvre K, Wellmon, RH, **Erdman E**. *Interprofessional Transfers Laboratory Experience Improves Student Attitudes Towards Interprofessional Learning, Collaboration, Teamwork, and Self-efficacy*. Oral presentation at: Sigma Theta Tau International's 28<sup>th</sup> International Nursing Research Congress; July, 2017; Dublin, Ireland.

Black, JD, Palombaro K, Dole R, Suruskie T, Golder, T **Erdman E**. *Physical Therapy Pro Bono Service: Not Just Free Therapy*. Education session: Combined Sections Meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association; February, 2017; San Antonio, TX.

Francis M, Lefebvre K, Wellmon, RH, **Erdman E**. *Interprofessional Transfers Laboratory Experience Improves Student Attitudes Towards Interprofessional Learning, Collaboration, Teamwork, and Self-efficacy*. Platform presentation at: Combined Sections Meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association; February, 2017, San Antonio, TX.

**Erdman E**, Pierce S. *The Use of Hippotherapy With a Teenage Boy s/p Traumatic Brain Injury, a Case Study*. Platform presentation at: Combined Sections Meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association; February, 2015, Indianapolis, IN

**Erdman E**, Dole R. *Outcomes of a Hippotherapy Program for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder*. Poster presentation at: American Hippotherapy Association International Conference March 2013, St. Louis MI.

**Erdman E**, Tebay J. *The Use of Hippotherapy with an Adolescent Male s/p TBI*. Education session at: American Hippotherapy Association International Conference March 2011, St. Louis MI

Forth G, **Erdman E**. *Stable Management as an Adjunct to Equestrian Therapy*. Oral presentation at: North American Riding for the Handicapped Association Annual Conference, November 1989, Parsippany, NJ.

**Erdman E**, Forth G. *Hippotherapy*. Poster presentation at: National Head Injury Foundation Conference December 1986, San Diego, CA.

#### **Non-Peer Reviewed Publications:**

**Erdman, E**. *The Impact of Terminology and Clarity in Research*. American Hippotherapy Magazine, Summer 2019.

**Erdman, E**. *Understanding AHCB*. American Hippotherapy Magazine, Summer 2019.

**Erdman E.** Fields, Beth. *Critical Inquiry Considerations for Evaluating Research in Evidence-Based Practice*. American Hippotherapy Magazine, Winter 2018.

**Erdman E.** *Research Critique: Effects of hippotherapy on body functions, activities and participation in children with cerebral palsy based on ICF-CY assessments*. American Hippotherapy Magazine, Summer 2018.

**Erdman E.** *The Path to Publication*. American Hippotherapy Magazine, Summer 2016.

**Erdman E.** *A Storybook to Promote Positive Behaviors*. American Hippotherapy Magazine, Winter 2015.

### **Current Research Activities:**

**Erdman E.** Peters C, Fields, B. *Risks, Incidents and Injuries Related to the Incorporation of Hippotherapy into Clinical Practice: a Qualitative Survey*. Year 3 of 5 data analysis in process.

### **Membership in Scientific/Professional Organizations:**

American Physical Therapy Association	1983-present
Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy, Member	1998-present
Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy, Member	2008-present
Academy of Physical Therapy Education, Member	2012-present
Health Policy and Administration Section, Member	2014-present
Section on Research, Member	2014-present
Pennsylvania Physical Therapy Association, Member	1985-present
Pediatric Special Interest Group, Member	1997-present
American Hippotherapy Association, Inc.	1989-present
Research Committee	2017-present
Appointed Chair	2018-2020
Ethics, Accountability and Reimbursement Committee	2019-present
American Hippotherapy Certification Board	2016-present
Elected Secretary	2020-present
Phi Kappa Phi	2019-present
Member-at-large	2019-present
Consultative and Advisory Positions Held:	
Chester Community Clinic	2017-present
Journal of the Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy Peer Reviewer	2017-present
All Riders Up, Consultant	2017-present

### **Service to the University/College/School on Committees:**

University Level:

Health and Wellness Coalition	2013-2014
SHSP Representative to TIRC	2016/2017

School Level:

Clinical and Fieldwork Directors	2019-present
Co-chair	2020-present
Academic Affairs	2017-2018, 2020-present
Diversity Committee	2013-2019
Interdisciplinary Day 2013-2015	

Unit Level:

Secretary/Agenda Coordinator for Faculty Meetings	2015-2016
Curriculum and Comprehensive Exam Committee	2016-2019
PT Class Advisor Class of 2020	2017-2020
Continuing Professional Education Institute	2016-present
Outcomes Committee	2012-2015, 2019-present
Admissions Committee	2013-present
MLK day Committee	2013-present

**Services to the Profession:**

Journal of the Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy	2017-present
Guest Editor	
Philadelphia Area Clinical Education Consortium	2013-present

**Honors and Awards:**

Recipient of the Genesis Rehabilitation Area 2	
“Customer Excellence Award”	2011

**Current Teaching Responsibilities in the Entry-Level Program:**

OT/PT730 Client Management I  
Fall Semester

PT813 Life Span II  
Spring Semester, lab

PT734 Clinical Practice I  
Spring Semester

PT780 Clinical Practice II  
Summer Semester

PT865 Clinical Practice III  
Spring Semester

PT866 Clinical Practice IV  
Spring Semester

PT800 Comprehensive Examination  
Spring Semester

