**Health Literacy Assignment**

For my capstone project, I am creating a presentation regarding the best techniques to improve respiratory function in patients with musculoskeletal changes due to neuromotor delay. This presentation is specifically for the therapists that work at a long-term care facility called Las Obras in Antigua, Guatemala. In order for this presentation to be effective, the therapists must 1) understand what I am saying, 2) master the techniques that I present to them, and 3) use the techniques on the patients that live in this facility. In order to achieve these things, I must give a presentation that uses simple and effective language. The presentation should be easy to understand without wordy and information-packed slides. The presentation will also involve a lab portion with a lab handout in which the therapists practice the techniques on each other. This practice time will also give the therapists an opportunity to try the techniques and ask questions as they arise.

One large barrier to giving this presentation is the fact that I will be presenting in Spanish. Although I have studied Spanish for many years in school, I still do not speak with the ease and fluency of a native speaker. In order to improve my Spanish speaking and listening skills, I started translating at UNC Hospital’s Children’s Specialty Clinic for the receptionists and nurses last fall. This opportunity has allowed me to practice my Spanish while speaking with many native speakers and to learn vocabulary tailored more specifically to a hospital setting. This semester, I am also enrolled in a class called “Spanish for Health Professionals” that focuses on teaching key vocabulary and reviewing the more difficult grammar concepts. Through this class, I have improved upon my comprehension and my reading skills in Spanish. My hope is that these opportunities will help me as I translate my presentation from English to Spanish and while I give my presentation in Spanish to the therapists in Guatemala.

In the process of preparing this presentation, I have read the chapter “Teaching and Learning in Physical Therapy: From Classroom to Clinic,” edited by Margaret Plack and MaryAnn Driscoll.1 In addition, I have watched Phil Waknell’s talk, “What are the secrets of a great WikiTalk?”2 and Don McMillan’s, “Life after death by PowerPoint 2012.”3 These resources have provided information about how to create a presentation that is fun and interesting, but also gets the main points across without flooding the audience with unnecessary depth and detail. Furthermore, I have a date set up to meet with Lisa Johnston to discuss the appropriate level of sophistication for this type of presentation since she is familiar with the facility and the therapists that work there. The goal for completing all of these activities is to learn how to create a presentation that is lively and exciting to the audience while also educating them in a productive way on techniques that can be used to improve respiratory function in patients with different types of dysfunctions.

Finally, I will be submitting the rough draft of the presentation to my capstone committee on March 27th, using the feedback I receive to make changes for the final presentation, and giving a trial run-through of the final presentation in English to my capstone committee on April 12th. Since the service trip to Antigua was cancelled this year, I hope to travel to Guatemala post-graduation to give the presentation. Therefore, my capstone committee will be the ones to complete the project evaluation following the presentation on April 12th. A translated version of the presentation will be submitted with the English version on April 21st.

References:

1. Plack M & Driscoll M. Teaching and learning in physical therapy: From classroom to clinic. 2011. Available at: <http://dptcapstone.web.unc.edu/files/2012/03/PlackCh4-Effectiveinstructionpart2.pdf>.
2. WikiStage. What are the secrets of a great WikiTalk? Phil Waknell. Youtube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=jT-H6UrinG0#at=45>. Published April 17, 2013. Accessed March 21, 2017.
3. McMillan D. Life after death by PowerPoint 2012 by Don McMillan. Youtube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MjcO2ExtHso>. Published September 12, 2012. Accessed March 21, 2017.