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# Occupational and Physical Therapist Assistants and Aides

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Occupational and Physical Therapist Assistants and Aides*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C122488.

Occupational therapy assistants and aides work under the direction of occupational therapists, helping patients develop, recover, and improve the skills needed for daily living and working. Occupational therapy assistants are directly involved in providing therapy to patients, while occupational therapy aides typically perform support activities. Physical therapist assistants and physical therapist aides work under the direction and supervision of physical therapists, helping patients who are recovering from injuries and illnesses regain movement and manage pain.