Discussion Assignment 1: Reviewing the Basics of EBPT (Chapter 1 of Jewell text)

ASSIGNMENT: Address ALL 3 of the following questions in your discussion posting.

Q1. Of the many reasons listed (in the Intro section of Chapter 1, pg 5) behind the “ground swell of interest” in evidence-based health care (eg. health care cost, medical errors, reimbursement, technology/access to evidence, etc..) . . . which reason(s), do you believe, is/are a driving force behind this movement; explain your thinking and speak from a broad/global as well as personal perspective. References & citations are not required but can be used. Your personal, informed opinion is what I’m most interested in.

Q2. Consider the definition of EBPT from Chapter 1, pg 9: "Evidence-based PT practice is open and thoughtful clinical decision making about the PT mgmt of a pt. that integrates the best available evidence with clinical judgment and the pt's preferences & values and that considers the larger social context in which PT services are provided . . ." Which of these bolded concepts have you best understood and utilized in clinical practice and which have you least understood and least utilized? Reflect on why and offer some discussion. See the section of Chapter 1-pg 12-13, "The Process of EB PT Px", to facilitate your thoughts. The 2003 PTJ article by Jette is posted online if you need more extensive background reading.

Q3. In the context of searching for & critically appraising relevant research evidence…. which two of the five areas of PT patient management (eg. exam, diagnosis, prognosis, intervention, outcome) do you find the most intriguing/interesting? Try to explain why your interest is strong in those particular aspects of patient care. Another way of approaching this question is to reflect on areas of patient mgmt in which you tend to naturally have the most clinical questions about patients (which SHOULD hopefully lead to a desire to find answers your questions). Refer to section "EB PT Practice Focus Areas" in Chapter 1, bottom of pg 10 as prep for this discussion.

REQUIREMENTS and DEADLINES:
Two postings are required for this Discussion Topic: an original and a follow-up.
1. You must post your original/initial discussion of items 1,2,3 above by 11:45PM central time on Friday, Sept 7, 2018.
2. You must do a follow-up posting by 11:45PM on Monday, Sept 10, 2018.

The follow-up posting should be extensive comment on at least 2 classmate’s discussion posting; it can be critical and/or supportive and should offer new thoughts/ideas and further reflection. Doing more than 2 quality follow-up postings to multiple classmates will earn you bonus points in the course.

HELPFUL HINTS: NEXT PAGE
1. Remember the expectations for your discussion postings (from the syllabus):
"..discussions should be engaging, thought-provoking, opinionated, well-thought-out remarks and should demonstrate, when appropriate to the topic, the student’s developing ability to function as a clinical scholar - - one who synthesizes and analyzes information about patient management. Obviously - - professional, respectful behavior should be rigidly adhered to in all discussions."

2. ALWAYS construct your lengthy discussion posting in a program like MS Word or Google docs (instead of directly in Blackboard) so you don’t lose your content, because Blackboard could time-out or go down. Then just copy/paste it onto the course message board.

3. LENGTH: There is no length requirement as long as you meet assignment requirements. If for some reason you encounter a word/character limit per posting, imposed by the online platform, then break it apart and do multiple postings.

4. QUALITY: Thoroughly review the grading rubric for discussion postings (rubric available on Blackboard) and use it to scrutinize the quality of your posting (before you post it).