



December 2020 | www.collegept.org | info@collegept.org

Happy Holidays



Welcome to the December edition of Perspectives.

On behalf of everyone at the College, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support over the past year. I know 2020 was unusual and trying in many ways, but we appreciate your willingness to adapt to the changes and your unwavering commitment to the health and safety of physiotherapy patients across Ontario.

We wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season and best wishes for the New Year. **Kindly note our holiday hours:** The College is closed from Friday, December 25 to Friday, January 1 (inclusive).

We look forward to connecting with you in 2021.

Stay safe,

Rod Hamilton
Registrar
College of Physiotherapists of Ontario

Have questions about supervising physiotherapy students, PT Residents or physiotherapist assistants (PTAs)?

We've created a [Supervision Requirements Summary Table](#) to break down supervision requirements and what treatment students, PTAs and PT Residents can take on. If you are responsible for supervising anyone, please take a couple of minutes to review the summary table.

Be sure to download this straightforward resource and print it off for easy access. You can refer back to it whenever needed.

Remember, the Supervision Standard states that the supervising physiotherapist remains responsible and accountable for ensuring that the standards of practice of the profession are upheld when individuals under their supervision are providing patient care. This includes students, PT Residents and PTAs.

[Review the Supervision Standard](#)

New Blog: Obtaining Consent When Custody is in Question

In a new blog post, we explore considerations for physiotherapists treating young patients whose parents may have shared or joint custody, or where custody agreements have not yet been clarified.

This blog highlights:

- The legislation in relation to obtaining valid, informed consent
- Seeking consent from the substitute decision makers in lieu of the patient
- Considerations for PTs when treating patients who arrive with a parent, guardian or alone
- The basic principles of Ontario family law where custody agreements have not been clarified

This is a very realistic scenario that you may encounter in your practice and this blog will help clarify your consent obligations. Be sure to give it a read and call the Practice Advisors if you have questions.

[Read the Blog](#)

Mandatory Reporting Obligations Reminder

The end of the year is a great time to review your mandatory reporting obligations as a physiotherapist, someone who employs physiotherapists or another regulated health professional.

Physiotherapists are legally required to make mandatory reports with the College. Not making a mandatory report as required could result in a fine or finding of professional misconduct.

Here are some common types of mandatory reports:

- Sexual abuse by a physiotherapist or another regulated health professional

- Incompetence or incapacity
- Termination of employment
- Individuals who are "holding out" or pretending to be a physiotherapist

This is just a snippet of mandatory reporting obligations, be sure to read about the requirements in detail on the College's Mandatory Reporting page.

Mandatory reports can be made online and if you are ever in doubt, it is always better to file a report than to not.

[More About Mandatory Reporting](#)

Strategies to Support Patients at Risk

If you're looking for resources to help support your patients who are at risk of suicide, self-harm or abuse, have a look at the College website.

We have an extensive list of mental health, suicide and abuse resources, as well as information on your mandatory reporting and privacy obligations.

[Strategies to Support Patients at Risk](#)

Practice Advice Question

Can a physiotherapist administer a vaccine if it was delegated by another regulated health professional?

[Get the Answer](#)

Myth vs Fact

A PT must wash their hands even if they wear gloves during a treatment with a patient who has screened negative for COVID-19.

Is this a myth or a fact?

[Find Out](#)



Reminder: COVID Guidance

As the number of infections in Ontario continues to rise, it's imperative that PTs continue to follow COVID guidance.

We would like to remind all physiotherapists of the College's COVID-19 guidance. This guidance was developed based on public health requirements, and is designed to keep you and your patients safe.

A few general reminders:

- Screen patients at the time of booking and on the day of appointment. Consider virtual care as an option, particularly if a patient screens positive for exposure to the virus or is at risk of complications should they contract COVID-19.
- Always wear a mask and other appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Wash your hands with soap or use a [Health Canada approved sanitizer](#) before and after each patient interaction and when putting on and taking off PPE.
- Clean and disinfect all patient contact surfaces after each use.
- Regularly clean and disinfect all high-touch surfaces in your place of employment, such as reception and break room surfaces.

If you have any questions about the College's COVID guidance or need help finding specific resources, call the Practice Advisors at 1-800-583-5885 (extension 241).

[COVID Guidance](#)

Welcome

New Registrants

The College would like to welcome our newly registered physiotherapists.

[View the List](#)

Questions? Ask the Advisor

Free, Confidential Advice Available for the Public and
Practice Advice for Physiotherapists

Call 1-800-583-5885 ext. 241 or 416-591-3828 ext. 241
or email advice@collegept.org

Comments or questions related to Perspectives?
Get in touch at communications@collegept.org or 1-800-583-5885 ext. 234.

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