

# Perspectives



April 2023 | [www.collegept.org](http://www.collegept.org) | [info@collegept.org](mailto:info@collegept.org)

Welcome to the April edition of Perspectives.

This is a friendly reminder to sign up for our next webinar with health lawyer and privacy expert Kate Dewhirst. It's scheduled for Thursday, April 27 from noon to 1 p.m. More information is included in the second half of this newsletter.

And, in case you missed our announcement earlier this month, the College will be welcoming our new Registrar and CEO, Craig Roxborough on May 23, 2023. Craig has a decade of progressive experience in the health regulatory sector, most recently as the Director of Policy at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. You can learn more about Craig in the [formal announcement](#) on our website.

On behalf of everyone at the College, we are looking forward to welcoming Craig to the team and starting this next chapter.

Sincerely,



Anita Ashton  
Interim Registrar

## New Blog: 7 Tips to Maintain Patient Safety

Patient safety is an important concept in physiotherapy practice. Physiotherapists work to improve the lives of their patients – they should not cause further harm.

Applying patient safety principles helps patients feel safe and may prevent something bad or unpleasant from happening. After reviewing some common mistakes and patient concerns, our Practice Advisors have pulled together seven tips to help physiotherapists maintain patient safety, reduce risks and improve patient outcomes.

[Read the Blog](#)

## Use of Doctor and Dr. Title by Physiotherapists

By law, only certain professionals are allowed to use the titles “doctor” and its abbreviation “Dr.” when delivering care or communicating with others about patient care. Physiotherapy is **not** one of those professions.

The use of “doctor” or “Dr.” in your social media profiles, general communication, communication with others including patients, or in charts and email addresses that you use while providing patient care is not permitted.

If you have a PhD, you are permitted to use the title “doctor” or “Dr.” **only if you are not doing so in a way that is connected to patient care.**

Read the Restricted Titles, Credentials and Specialty Designations Standard for more information.

[Read the Standard](#)

## Case of the Month: Everything is Not as it Seems

The College received a complaint from a patient about the conduct and practice of a physiotherapist regarding their own care, the care of another patient, and a potentially fraudulent OHIP bill. The physiotherapist disputed the complaint and had the information to back up their account, ultimately leading to a no action decision.

Be sure to read this case. It's an excellent reminder of how strong record keeping and a proactive approach to practice improvement can help physiotherapists in similar situations.

[Read the Case](#)

## Key Takeaways from PISA

Thanks to everyone who completed their Professional Issues Self Assessment (PISA) exercise this year. We hope it was a good reminder of your responsibilities when working with physiotherapist assistants and others.

Based on some of the questions that some physiotherapists got incorrect, here are some key takeaways about the Working with Physiotherapist Assistants Standard:

- **No part of acupuncture can be assigned to a PTA**, not even by a physiotherapist who is rostered to perform acupuncture.
- Physiotherapists **can** delegate the controlled act of administering oxygen as long as the person who will be performing the act has the knowledge, skills, and judgement to do so safely, competently, and ethically.
- A PTA's name should appear on the patient's invoice.
- PTAs **can** record measurements like shoulder flexion ROM as long as the PTA is trained and competent to take the measurements on behalf of the PT.

Be sure to read the full standard for more information, and call the Practice Advisors at 1-800-583-5885 (extension 241) if you have further questions.

[Read the Standard](#)

# Ontario Clinical Exam: Updated Information and Resources

The first virtual administrations of the Ontario Clinical Exam (OCE) will be June 10 and 11, 2023. There are more than 400 candidates scheduled for upcoming exams.

We realize that candidates are eager to learn more about the virtual exams, and how to prepare. We are building up our preparatory content, and have highlighted a few key pieces below for candidates to consider.

- Webinar: [How to Prepare for the OCE](#) (updated April 2023)
- [Candidate Technology Requirements](#)

We will be adding additional information, resources and videos to the exam pages in the coming weeks.

We are also hosting a [live webinar](#) on Wednesday, May 24 from 6 to 7 p.m. This is an opportunity for candidates to ask questions about preparing for the OCE, what to expect on exam day, and the structure of the exam.

## More About the OCE

### Practice Advice Question

*How can a physiotherapist ensure the equipment/modality used in care is safe for their patients?*

*What are the PT's responsibilities to the patient?*

[Get the Answer](#)

### Myth vs Fact

*A registered Kinesiologist working in the role of a PTA cannot reassess a patient and independently change the treatment plan.*

**Is this a myth or a fact?**

[Find Out](#)



### Conflict of Interest Standard

Physiotherapists must recognize and manage situations that may result in a real, potential, or perceived conflict of interest.

One example of a conflict of interest is when physiotherapists recommend products or services to their patients that are not clinically indicated, but there may be a financial or other benefit to the PT.

**Advice from the Practice Advisors when it comes to avoiding a conflict of interest:**

**Stop:** Recommending products or services to patients that are not clinically indicated, or recommending products simply because they're offered at your clinic.

**Start:** Only recommending products or services to patients that are clinically indicated. Be sure to document any discussions with the patient about products or services in the clinical record.

If you or a relative have a financial interest in the product or service you are recommending, you should also:

- Disclose any financial interest to the patient before recommending a product or service.
- Ensure that the patient is aware of any practical alternatives.
- Assure the patient that their care will not be affected if they choose an alternate supplier.

Be sure to review the complete Standard and call the Practice Advisors at 1-800-583-5885 (extension 241) if you're looking for additional guidance.

**Read the Standard**

## Privacy Webinar with Kate Dewhirst on April 27

Our next, free webinar with health lawyer and privacy expert Kate Dewhirst is only a week away!

**Be sure to join us on Thursday, April 27 from noon until 1 p.m.**

In a follow up to our [last privacy webinar](#), Kate will take a deeper dive into privacy requirements and considerations for regulated health professionals.

A recording of the webinar will be available after for anyone who is unable to attend live. **Be sure to register to receive an email with a copy of the recording.**

**Register Now**

## Congratulations New Council Members

The 2023 Council Elections are complete. Thank you to everyone who participated in the process and voted.

Congratulations to the following physiotherapists who will be joining Council in June:

- Gary Rehan - District 4 (Eastern)
- Andy Wang - District 5 (Northern)
- Maureen Vanwart - District 8 (Central)

**About Council**

## 2022 CPMF Report Now Available

Our 2022 College Performance Measurement Framework (CPMF) report is now available to download on the Competency Framework page of our website.

The CPMF reporting tool is designed to help the public understand how well colleges are doing their job and to help continually improve accountability, transparency and oversight. The tool was developed by the Ministry, together with Ontario's health regulatory colleges, subject matter experts and the public.

Competency Framework

## 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 647-484-8800  
or email [advice@collegept.org](mailto:advice@collegept.org)

Comments or questions related to Perspectives?  
Get in touch at [communications@collegept.org](mailto:communications@collegept.org) or 1-800-583-5885 ext. 234.

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