

Perspectives



November 2023 | www.collegept.org | info@collegept.org

Welcome to the November edition of Perspectives.

In this newsletter you'll find information about advertising, privacy, a final call out for our By-law consultations, and helpful reminders ahead of the upcoming annual renewal period that starts February 1. Although still a couple of months away, it's a good idea to start thinking about things like practice hours and liability insurance to help facilitate a smooth renewal process.

Finally, this time of year can bring some additional considerations for physiotherapists around things like gifts and seasonal events. We have compiled some helpful tips to support you in maintaining professional boundaries with patients during the holiday season. As always, our Practice Advisors are available to discuss any questions you might have.

All the best,



Craig Roxborough
Registrar and CEO

By-law Consultations - 5 Days Left to Submit Feedback

This is the last call to submit feedback on our two By-law consultations:

- Proposed By-law Changes: Increases to Registration-Related Fees
- Proposed By-law Changes: Collection of Additional Demographic and Practice-Related Information

Thanks to everyone who has taken time to submit their feedback so far. **The consultations close on Tuesday, November 28, 2023. Visit the consultations page for details.**

[Consultations Page](#)

Case of the Month: Under Pressure to Change Records

Physiotherapists are required to maintain patient records that are thorough, accurate, and organized.

But what happens when a patient disagrees with the discharge instructions and pushes the physiotherapist to change the records after the fact?

In a new Case of the Month, we'll take a closer look at how the physiotherapist handled the patient's request, and explore the importance of always maintaining professionalism throughout care.

[Read the Case](#)

Maintaining Boundaries: Holiday Considerations

It's the time of year where patients may want to show additional appreciation, or physiotherapists may find themselves attending more social events in their community.

When offered a gift (monetary or a physical item), consider:

- Patient's intent
- Significance of the gift
- The effect on objectivity during treatment

If the physiotherapist is uneasy or uncertain about the patient's motives, it's acceptable to decline the gift and provide an explanation. In some cases, having a clear policy on accepting gifts can help communicate the decision to the patient.

In social situations, like encounters while shopping or community events, physiotherapists must set clear limits to prioritize patient care and maintain professionalism, identity, and privacy. This includes:

- Avoiding patient care discussions outside the clinic
- Redirecting treatment related questions to the clinic

Be sure to review the Boundaries and Sexual Abuse Standard and don't hesitate to reach out to the Practice Advisors with questions. Call 1-800-583-5885 (extension 241) or email advice@collegept.org.

[Read the Standard](#)

Professional Liability Insurance: Double Check Your Policy

Professional liability insurance is a **mandatory requirement** for all physiotherapists. As a reminder, you will be asked to provide information about your insurance policy during annual renewal from February 1 to March 31, 2024.

Your liability insurance must include:

- A minimum coverage of \$5 million dollars for the annual policy period
- A liability limit of at least \$5 million dollars per incident
- No additional terms, conditions or exclusions, other than standard
- No deductible
- Tail insurance (extended coverage) for a minimum of 10 years

Consider finding your policy now, to make sure you meet the above requirements and see if it

needs to be renewed. This will ensure you have up to date information about your insurance policy for annual renewal.

Liability Insurance

Practice Advice Question

A physiotherapist is leaving on vacation or short term leave for a couple months.

What are the PT's responsibilities to the patient?

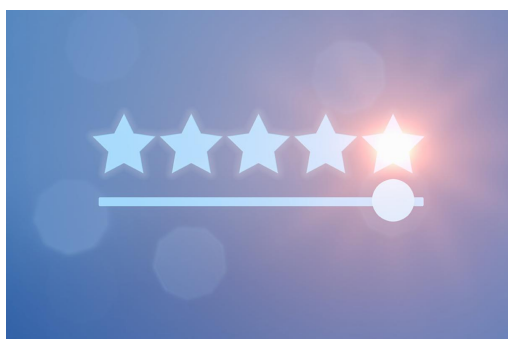
[Get the Answer](#)

Myth vs Fact

It's the physiotherapist's responsibility to set the limits within the therapeutic relationship.

Is this a myth or a fact?

[Find Out](#)



Advertising Standard

Physiotherapists are responsible for any advertisement over which they have control.

Physiotherapists may rely on patient testimonials to advertise their services. Testimonials are permitted as long as they meet the requirements of the standard including being true, accurate and verifiable.

Advice from the Practice Advisors when it comes to advertising and testimonials:

Stop: Including details about specific patients in your advertisements unless you have received clear permission from those patients to do so.

Start: Implementing the following steps if you plan to use patient testimonials in advertisements:

- Get informed consent from the patient.
- Make sure the patient understands how and where the testimonials will be featured.
- Document the patient's consent for testimonial use.

Be sure to review the standard and call the Practice Advisors at 1-800-583-5885 (extension 241) if you have further questions.

[Read the Standard](#)

With the recent surge in cybersecurity breaches in healthcare settings, it's important for physiotherapists who are employed in hospitals or clinics to proactively take measures to identify and address potential breaches. In Ontario, Health Information Custodians (custodians) have a duty under the [Personal Health Information Protection Act \(PHIPA\)](#) to protect personal health information against privacy breaches.

Custodians are typically institutions, facilities or private practice health practitioners that deliver healthcare services. If you are the custodian follow these steps in the event of a breach:

- Evaluate the breach's significance, considering information sensitivity, incident scale, and shared responsibility.
- Promptly inform affected individuals, stressing their right to file a complaint with the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario.
- Notify the College if an employee or agent involved in a breach faces termination, suspension, or disciplinary action.

If you are an agent of the custodian, you must notify the custodian at the first reasonable opportunity and ensure that the breach is contained. Visit the privacy page, or call the Practice Advisors for more information.

Privacy

Annual Renewal and Practice Hours

Believe it or not, annual renewal will be here before you know it. Now is a great time to make sure you can meet the practice hour requirement for Independent Practice.

All physiotherapists will be required to report their practice hours for 2023 as a part of the 2024-2025 annual renewal process, which will run from February 1 to March 31, 2024.

If you haven't completed the clinical exam in the last five years, the College will review your reported practice hours from January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2023 to ensure you have 1,200 practice hours.

Practice hours may include:

- Hours worked that you have been paid for (clinical settings, consultation, research, administration, academia or sales)
- Professional activity/development hours (maximum 30 per year). Professional activity hours include volunteer activity which requires the use of physiotherapy theory and knowledge, continuing education hours and/or participation

If you have questions about the practice hour requirement, please contact the Registration Team at registration@collept.org or 1-800-583-5885 ext. 222.

Practice Hours

Next Council Meeting is December 14 and 15

Mark your calendars for the upcoming College Council meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 14 and Friday, December 15, 2023.

Council meetings are open to the public. All meeting materials and livestream links will be

posted on the College website one week before the meeting.

About Council

2023 Jurisprudence Module - December 1 Deadline

The Jurisprudence Module deadline is **Friday, December 1, 2023**.

ONLY the following physiotherapists are required to complete the module this year:

- PTs who registered in Independent Practice between **September 27, 2022 and September 25, 2023**
- PTs who have not completed the Jurisprudence Module in the last five years

If you have not received an email from the College, you are **NOT** required to complete the module.

Jurisprudence Module

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

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

www.collegept.org

