

# Perspectives



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

Welcome to the August edition of Perspectives.

This month we're sharing information about virtual care, record keeping, and a free online tool that helps patients and caregivers find healthcare information and services.

As we prepare for the next administration of the Ontario Clinical Exam (OCE) in October, we're happy to announce another live webinar to answer candidate questions on Tuesday, September 19 at 6 p.m. We're also gearing up for the first French exam in January. Keep an eye on our website in the coming weeks for exam materials and information in French.

Lastly, we have a Council meeting scheduled for September 28 and 29. More information will be available soon, if you would like to review the materials or watch the livestream.

All the best,



Craig Roxborough  
Registrar & CEO

## Reminders About Virtual Practice

The delivery of physiotherapy services virtually became more widely used during the pandemic, but some patients or physiotherapists may still look to virtual care for a variety of reasons.

Regardless of the circumstances, physiotherapists must always use their professional judgement to determine if virtual practice is the best delivery method for the patient, and must make sure that they're following all standards and rules.

Keep in mind there are several considerations that come with the delivery of virtual care, including:

- Adhering to the scope of practice for the profession
- Obtaining informed consent from patients to participate in virtual care
- Managing technology requirements
- Making sure the patient's personal health information is protected
- Having a plan to manage adverse events

When used properly, virtual care can be a very helpful tool in many different situations. Visit the website for more information about expectations, frequently asked questions, and additional resources to support physiotherapists in delivering high-quality virtual care.

## Virtual Care

### Live Webinar: Answering Your Questions About the OCE

The next administrations of the Ontario Clinical Exam are right around the corner and we're happy to be hosting another live webinar to answer questions about the OCE. This session is perfect for anyone who is currently preparing for the exam in October, but is open to everyone.

**Join us on Tuesday, September 19 from 6 to 7 p.m. ET for a live Q & A session on Zoom.**

There is no need to pre-register for the event, however it's recommended that you review the information and resources on the [Preparing for the OCE page](#) before the webinar. Some of your questions may be addressed in existing resources, but we're happy to provide further clarification as needed.

The webinar will be recorded for anyone who can't attend live. We hope to see you there!

## Webinar Details

### Case of the Month: Jumping Back In

To be eligible for an Independent Practice Certificate of Registration, applicants must have completed a clinical exam, or accumulated 1,200 practice hours in the previous five years.

But what happens when an applicant has to take time away from the profession? These instances are considered on a case by case basis by the Registration Committee, and can lead to a few different outcomes.

In a new Case of the Month, we'll take a look at an application for Independent Practice from someone who was previously registered with the College and wanted to jump back into the profession after not practicing for seven years.

## Read the Case

### Self-Reporting Requirements for PTs

It's a legal requirement for physiotherapists to file self-reports in certain situations.

But what are physiotherapists required to self-report? Physiotherapists are required to report things like:

- Offences - impaired driving, dangerous driving, traffic offences, etc.
- Charges under the Criminal Code, Controlled Drugs and Substances Act or the Health Insurance Act
- Bail or similar restrictions

A complete list of what physiotherapists are required to self-report is available on the website. Some information from these reports may appear on the [Public Register](#) to help patients make informed decisions about their care.

If you're unsure if something needs to be reported, please contact the Practice Advisor for guidance at 1-800-583-5885 ext. 241. When in doubt, it is better to [make a self-report](#) than not report.

## Self-Reporting

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### Practice Advice Question

*Can a registered physiotherapist in Ontario provide virtual care to a patient who is outside the province?*

[Get the Answer](#)

### Myth vs Fact

*A patient can request a copy of their records.*

Is this a myth or a fact?

[Find Out](#)

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## Record Keeping Standard

Information in clinical records must support a physiotherapist's rationale for the care that they provide.

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Clinical records must contain relevant information about a patient's care in enough detail to allow another health provider to assume care of the patient or to follow the plan of care.

### Advice from the Practice Advisors when it comes to record keeping:

**Stop:** Discharging or closing a patient's file without including a discharge summary or end of care note about the physiotherapy care received.

**Start:** Including discharge summaries in a patient's record even with no shows. The details included in an end of care note or discharge summary will vary with the reasons for ending treatment.

If a patient does not attend the last appointment, the note in their chart should indicate the date of the non-attendance, the reason (if known), and should reflect the patient's status at the last appointment. Discharge summaries may include reassessment findings, reason for discharge and other recommendations.

We've linked a few additional resources below. Be sure to review the complete standard and call the Practice Advisors at 1-800-583-5885 (extension 241) if you have further questions.

[Read the Standard](#)

## Additional Record Keeping Resources

We have several helpful resources to help support physiotherapists in meeting the requirements of the Record Keeping Standard. Be sure to check them out.

- [Record Keeping Checklist](#) - You can use this checklist to help make sure that your record meet the requirements. Both an online and downloadable version are available.
- [Record Keeping E-Learning Module](#) - This comprehensive e-learning module will use practical scenarios and examples to highlight everything you need to know.
- [The Importance of Keeping Good Physiotherapy Records](#) - This blog draws from the experiences of six PTs to detail why good record keeping is essential to physiotherapy practice.

## New Health Services Tool to Share with Patients

The Ontario Government has a great search tool called Health811 to help patients and caregivers find physiotherapists, doctors, nurse practitioners, specialists, or other health services.

Health811 makes it easy for anyone to find information about health services and programs based on their preferences and location. People can use the search bar and filters to narrow down the area, profession, and specialty that they need.

This service is free, and accessible 24/7 so feel free to share with your patients and community.

[Health811](#)

## Next Council Meeting: September 28 and 29

The next College Council meeting is scheduled for September 28 and 29, 2023.

Council meetings are open to the public. More information including a schedule, meeting materials and the livestream links to join the sessions will be available on the website closer to the meeting date.

[About Council](#)

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**Welcome**  
New Registrants

The College would like to welcome our newly registered physiotherapists.

## 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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