

# Perspectives



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

Welcome to the October edition of Perspectives. In this newsletter you'll find information about patient safety and Canadian Patient Safety Week, physiotherapy scope of practice, and two by-law consultations that you can provide feedback on.

You'll also find the first edition of my Registrar's Blog, where I'll regularly share important information about our work, how we are supporting and working with the profession, and explore key collaborations with our system partners.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone involved in the October administrations of the Ontario Clinical Exam including candidates, examiners, and College staff. This was our largest group to date, with 262 candidates completing the exam over two days. This is a significant milestone, and we are looking forward to the next exams in January 2024.

All the best,



Craig Roxborough  
Registrar and CEO

## New Registrar's Blog by Craig Roxborough

Craig Roxborough is taking over the College blog this month for the first edition of his Registrar's Blog!

Craig has been in his role as Registrar and CEO for about five months now, and this blog is the perfect space for him to reflect on the ways we're working with and supporting the profession, while also sharing a quick look at some of our work ahead.

Be sure to read the blog, and stay tuned for more updates from Craig in the future.

[Read the Blog](#)

## By-law Consultations: Provide Feedback by November 28

We want to hear from you! The College is currently seeking feedback on two open By-law consultations:

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

We welcome your input on the proposed new By-laws. **Please visit the Consultations page and provide your feedback by Tuesday, November 28, 2023.**

[Consultations](#)

## Case of the Month: When Virtual Care Falls Short

Virtual care was widely used during the pandemic to ensure patients were able to continually access physiotherapy services and it continues to be used successfully in many situations today.

However, the most important thing to remember about virtual care is that all the rules, standards and expectations for the profession still apply.

In a new Case of the Month, we'll take a look at what happens when virtual care falls short, leading to a complaint for a PT Resident.

[Read the Case](#)

## Canadian Patient Safety Week: Resources for PTs

We're right in the middle of Canadian Patient Safety Week, which runs from October 23 to 27, 2023.

This year's theme is a new approach to patient safety grounded in exploring, learning and acting to create safer care and reduce all forms of harm — including those caused by culturally unsafe care.

Here are some resources to help support physiotherapists in the delivery of physically, psychologically and culturally safe patient care.

**College resources:**

- [Patient Safety](#) - how to prevent and respond to patient safety incidents
- [Top 7 Tips to Maintain Patient Safety](#) (blog)
- [The Importance of Using a Call Bell](#) (blog)
- [Providing Culturally Safe and Welcoming Care for Transgender and Gender Diverse Patients](#) (blog)
- [Strategies to Support Patients at Risk](#)

**External resources:**

- [Healthcare Excellence Canada](#) - Patient Safety Week Resources
- [Canadian Patient Safety Institute](#)

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## Practice Advice Question

*I play in a recreational sporting league. Can I treat fellow players in the league in my private practice?*

[Get the Answer](#)

## Myth vs Fact

*Physiotherapists can teach family members or others to do exercises with a patient without ongoing supervision by the PT.*

Is this a myth or a fact?

[Find Out](#)



## Controlled Acts and Restricted Activities Standard

Controlled acts can be delegated to a physiotherapist by another health professional under certain conditions.

Physiotherapists are accountable for the practice they provide to the public including performing a controlled act under delegation from an authorized professional.

### Advice from the Practice Advisors when it comes to delegation of controlled acts and restricted activities:

**Stop:** Performing controlled acts and restricted activities under delegation if you're unsure of the risks, benefits, and appropriate safeguards that are in place to mitigate risk.

**Start:** Considering safeguards before accepting delegation of a controlled act or restricted activity. These may include:

- Assessing your own competency and making sure the activity is within the physiotherapy scope of practice.
- Making sure you can manage all possible outcomes, including adverse events.
- Making sure the person delegating the activity has the authority to do so.
- Reviewing the benefits, risks and alternatives to treatment with each patient, and giving them an opportunity to ask questions.

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](#)

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## Rostering for Controlled Acts and Restricted Activities

Remember, physiotherapists must be rostered to perform the following controlled acts:

- Tracheal suctioning
- Spinal manipulation
- Acupuncture (including dry needling)
- Treating a wound below the dermis
- Pelvic internal exams (this includes putting an instrument, hand or finger, beyond the labia majora, or beyond the anal verge)
- Administering a substance by inhalation

Check out the video below for more information on rostering.



## Scope of Practice: Is it Physiotherapy?

“The practice of physiotherapy is the assessment of neuromuscular, musculoskeletal and cardio respiratory systems, the diagnosis of diseases or disorders associated with physical dysfunction, injury or pain and the treatment, rehabilitation and prevention or relief of physical dysfunction, injury or pain to develop, maintain, rehabilitate or augment function and promote mobility.”

Physiotherapy Act, c. 26, s. 22 (1).

When making decisions about scope of practice, physiotherapists can ask a series of questions to help determine if the treatment falls within the regulated scope of practice for physiotherapy.

For example:

- Is the treatment/modality being used to assess/diagnose neuromuscular, musculoskeletal and/or cardio respiratory systems, physical dysfunction, injury or pain?
- Is the treatment/modality being used to treat, improve, maintain or prevent physical dysfunction, injury or pain?
- Is there evidence that the skill or service is effective, safe and a benefit to patients?
- Is the treatment covered by most insurance plans?

If a physiotherapist is answering 'no' to any of these questions or any of the additional considerations on the College website, the treatment is likely not part of the regulated scope of practice for physiotherapy. Be sure to check out the helpful flowcharts for further guidance around scope of practice.

### Physiotherapy Scope

## 2023 Jurisprudence Module - Reminder

Reminder: the Jurisprudence Module is open until Friday, December 1, 2023.

**ONLY the following physiotherapists will be 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 don't receive an email from the College, you do NOT need 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](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.

