



April 2024 | www.collegept.org | info@collegept.org

Welcome to the April edition of Perspectives.

In this newsletter you'll find a recruitment call for physiotherapists and members of the public to join College committees, the results of the 2024 elections and by-election, a link to the 2023 College Performance Measurement Framework (CPMF) report, and an invitation to participate in the next round of consultations for the proposed national standards. Two additional draft standards are now open for consultation, and your feedback is an essential part of our process for validating and implementing these revised expectations.

Finally, I recently had the opportunity to attend my first Ontario Physiotherapy Association InterACTION conference. It was wonderful to connect with many of you face-to-face and hear more about the challenges, successes and opportunities in the profession.

One session even inspired my latest blog post where I'll explore the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in clinical practice, including potential benefits and considerations for physiotherapists. A link to the blog is included below and I welcome your comments on the post as I know we'll continue to navigate this innovation in the months and years to come.

All the best,



Craig Roxborough
Registrar and CEO

Blog: Thinking About AI Implications on Practice

Let's face it... Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become a huge part of our lives, and it's more than likely here to stay.

In a new Registrar's Blog, Craig Roxborough explores the potential benefits of incorporating AI into clinical practice, and outlines the core obligations that physiotherapists will need to consider to help use AI responsibly.

Be sure to take some time to read the blog and leave a comment to share your thoughts about the role of AI in physiotherapy and the overall healthcare system.

[Read the Blog](#)

New Standards Consultations: Share Your Feedback

We're continuing with the phased approach to reviewing new proposed standards. We appreciate everyone who took time to share their thoughts on the first four standards and Code of Ethics. We're now inviting feedback on **two new standards** that Council approved for consultation at the March meeting.

The two proposed standards currently open for consultation are:

1. Evidence-Informed Practice
2. Titles, Credentials and Specialty Designations

These consultations close on Monday, May 27. Visit the Consultations page for more information.

[Consultations](#)

2023 CPMF Report Now Available

To help the public understand how well colleges are doing their job and to help continually improve accountability, transparency and oversight, all colleges report to the Ontario Ministry of Health using the College Performance Measurement Framework (CPMF) reporting tool.

The 2023 report is the fourth iteration, and we're happy to say there have been significant improvements since 2022.

- Now only two measures out of 50 are not fully met. In 2022, we had 22 measures that required improvement.
- All eight benchmarked evidence measures (those of highest importance) are now fully met.
- Two ongoing areas for improvement are around processes for managing conflicts of interest and making sure policies, guidelines and standards promote equity, diversity and inclusion.
- We have actionable items planned for 2024 to continue to make progress in both of these areas.

Visit the Competency Framework page of the College website to review and download the complete report.

Competency Framework

Case of the Month: Inexplicable Invoices

When considering a new job, physiotherapists need to ensure their employer will support them in meeting their professional obligations. This includes making sure physiotherapy services are billed appropriately and that the PT's registration number will only be used for services they provided.

In a new Case of the Month, we'll explore what happens when a patient requests a copy of their physiotherapy records for insurance purposes, and ends up with serious questions about the legitimacy of the invoices.

Read the Case



Featured Standard: Boundaries and Sexual Abuse

Boundaries are physical and emotional limits of the therapeutic relationship between the patient and the physiotherapist. It's important to establish and maintain clear professional boundaries at all times.

Advice from the Practice Advisors when it comes to boundaries:

Stop: Assuming that patients already know what's going to happen in a physiotherapy session.

Start: Making sure patients understand what you are proposing to do, the reasons why, any risks and benefits to treatment, and any alternatives that can be considered. It's so important to talk to your patients, rather than making assumptions. The [Patient Centred Communication E-Learning Module](#) provides some great tips for establishing strong communication skills.

Remember, a patient must consent to any clinical touch before starting an assessment or treatment. Check in often to make sure the patient is still comfortable.

Be sure to review the Boundaries and Sexual Abuse Standard on the College website, and call the Practice Advisors at 1-800-583-5885 ext. 241 if you have any questions.

[Read the Standard](#)

Practice Advice Question

What should a physiotherapist consider before having volunteers or non-physiotherapy students spend time in a clinic?

[Get the Answer](#)

Myth vs Fact

Physiotherapists can make corrections to patient records, if required.

Is this a myth or a fact?

[Find Out](#)

Committee Recruitment

We are currently recruiting professional committee members (physiotherapists) and public non-board members to serve on various College committees. This is an excellent opportunity to get more involved in regulation, and contribute to our shared public protection mandate. Most meetings are held virtually and committee members are compensated for their time.

Physiotherapists can apply now for:

- The Registration Committee
- The Quality Assurance Committee
- The Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee (ICRC)

Members of the public with experience in mental health and wellness services can apply now for:

- The Patient Relations Committee

Visit the Careers page of the College website to review the full eligibility requirements. Be sure to share this information with anyone who might be interested in applying.

[Careers](#)

Elections and By-Election Results

The 2024 elections and by-election are complete. Thank you to everyone who participated in the process and voted.

Congratulations to the following physiotherapists who will be joining or returning to the Board of Directors in June:

- Dennis Ng — District 3 (Central Eastern)
- Kirsten Pavelich — District 5 (Northern)
- Frank DePalma — District 6 (Toronto West)
- Kate Moffett — District 7 (Toronto East)

About the Board

Mental Health Resources for Patients and PTs

Research suggests that suicide rates increase in the spring and can be particularly high in April and May. Review [this publication from the National Library of Medicine](#) to learn more.

How to Support Patients

- It's appropriate for physiotherapists to address comments that a patient makes about suicide. You can offer early support by connecting the patient to the appropriate support services.
- Remember to respond in a way that is empathetic and professional. Gently ask for more information.
- Be mindful of the patient's comfort especially during hands-on treatment. Abruptly withdrawing physical contact may impact their comfort with disclosing information.
- Consider taking mental health first aid training and encourage your teammates to do the same. Here's information about one option from the [Mental Health Commission of Canada](#).

More information about supporting patients is available on the [Strategies to Support Patients at Risk](#) page of the College website.

How to Support Yourself

Physiotherapists may also experience mental health challenges related to their professional or personal lives. We have a curated list of mental health and wellness resources available on our website that you can look to for more information.

Important: Anyone who is in crisis or has concerns related to suicide should immediately call or text 9-8-8. This is a free service that will connect you to a qualified responder for judgement-free help at any time.

Mental Health Resources

Welcome

New Registrants

The College would like to welcome our newly registered physiotherapists.

[View the List](#)



Comments or questions related to Perspectives?
Get in touch at communications@collegept.org or 1-800-583-5885 ext. 291

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