

SCPT Practice Guideline #13 Concurrent Treatment Practices

Background

The SCPT Regulatory Bylaws provide as follows:

Concurrent treatment

21 No member shall provide physical therapy treatment to a client where:

- (a) the client is receiving treatment from another health care provider who has a dissimilar or conflicting treatment philosophy, approach or client care objectives;
- (b) the other health care provider treating the client has not been notified; or
- (c) the physical therapy services provided constitute duplication.

The SCPT Code of Ethical Conduct provides:

A. Responsibilities to the Client

16. Practice collaboratively with colleagues, other health professionals and agencies for the benefit of clients.

Practice Guideline

1. In order to comply with the Bylaws, the Saskatchewan College of Physical Therapists advises all physical therapists to ascertain what concurrent treatment(s) the patient is receiving that may influence the efficacy of the physical therapy treatment to be or being provided to them.

2. Concurrent treatment is appropriate where:

- (1) Two physical therapists choose to coordinate treatment approaches for the benefit of the patient.
- (2) The physical therapist and other health care practitioner are members of a health care team with shared patient care objectives and where treatment is complimentary and done in consultation.