

## ASK THE PRACTICE ADVISOR

### CPR Certification

#### Question

*I am a physical therapist working at a private practice in Saskatchewan. My CPR certification is due for renewal, and I wanted to know if I am required to hold CPR certification as a requirement to be licensed in Saskatchewan. I searched on the SCPT website but did not find the information I require.*

#### Practice Advisor Response

Thanks for your question regarding regulatory requirements for holding valid certification in CPR as part of SCPT licensing.

There is no SCPT licensing requirement that specifically states a member must have active CPR certification to practice physical therapy in Saskatchewan.

Although there are some practice situations where the SCPT requires confirmation of education and competence, such as specialized procedures, there are few instances where the SCPT will dictate specific requirements for skill certification. This is because prescriptive regulatory requirements may be overly restrictive to some members who do not require certain knowledge and skills to competently practice in their individual setting.

Regulation does however require that each physical therapist is personally responsible to determine the skills and knowledge required to provide the safest most effective care possible in their individual practice environment.

Your role as a licensed practitioner is to consider your individual need for CPR training which may include consideration of SCPT regulation, your personal professional responsibility, employer expectations, and the requirements of your insurance provider.

#### **SCPT Regulation**

Although, as already mentioned, there is no specific SCPT Bylaw that speaks directly to the need to hold valid CPR certification there is regulatory language that directs the need for PTs to be

held to a high standard of accountability for safe patient care and to participate in emergency preparedness and response training appropriate to the practice setting.

### SCPT Bylaws

***General Standards 19(1) No member shall (b) knowingly endanger the safety of a client.***

### Code of Ethical Conduct

Our Code of Ethical Conduct speaks to the ethical principle of Beneficence that ***guides the practitioner to do what is good with respect to the welfare of the client. In physiotherapy practice, the physiotherapist should provide benefit to the client's health.*** Ethical responsibilities include to ***Practice in a safe, competent, accountable, and responsible manner during the provision of services*** and ***Take all reasonable steps to prevent harm to clients.***

### Standards of Practice

**#6 Competence:** Engages in self-reflection to identify learning needs and objectives to maintain competence.

**#18 Safety:** Maintains competency in safety protocols by participating in appropriate training related to safe environments, including adherence to occupational health and workplace safety legislations and Incorporates appropriate measures to maintain the health and safety of clients, her/himself, and other colleagues during the provision of physiotherapy services.

**#17 Risk Management:** participates in emergency preparedness and response training appropriate to the practice setting.

### Personal Professional Responsibility:

- In the event of an adverse client incident occurring, consider if you would be prepared to provide the support expected of a health care professional and would you be able to defend your position if a complaint were raised.

### Employer Expectations:

- It would be typical for your employer to have policies and procedures for risk management that may include the requirement for employees to have valid CPR training, so you may also want to check with your employer. Do keep in mind that although your employers' requirements need to be considered, you as an individual practitioner do have obligations that may be separate from those of your employer, as



you individually may at any time be held accountable for your performance and competence.

**Insurance Requirements:**

- To ensure you are covered in all practice situations, you may also wish to check with your insurance provider to determine if they have requirements for safety and risk management as part of your liability insurance coverage.