SCPT Practice Resource Incentive Payment Systems

Standards of Practice for Physical Therapists and Practice Resources

Along with the implementation of the Standards of Practice document (as of September 1, 2022), Practice Guidelines are being transitioned to Practice Resources. Practice Resources are educational documents for physical therapists when considering broader topics that may involve multiple standards or regulations.

As part of the transition, Practice Guidelines will be renamed Practice Resources until they can be incorporated into new revamped Practice Resources.

The Physical Therapists Act and SCPT Bylaws, which includes the Ethical Code, and the Standards of Practice document are the approved documents for physical therapy practice in Saskatchewan providing the foundation for which practitioners are governed within the regulatory environment.

Background

The SCPT Code of Ethical Conduct provides:

- A. Responsibilities to the Client
- 7. Treat clients only when the diagnosis or continuation of the intervention warrants treatment and is not contraindicated.
- B. Responsibilities to the Public
- 5. Act transparently and with integrity in all professional and business practices including fees and billing; advertising of professional services and real and/or perceived conflicts of interest.
- C. Responsibilities to Self and to the Profession
- 3. Act honestly, transparently and with integrity in all professional and business practices to uphold the reputation of the profession.

A physical therapist's professional duty is owed to the client, regardless of who pays for the physical therapy services.

Practice Resource

1. A physical therapist must make decisions regarding a client in the client's best interest and with the client's full knowledge.

- 2. A physical therapist should ensure that no conflict of interest arises when a physical therapist's actions or decisions may reasonably be perceived to be motivated and/or influenced by the potential for financial gain or to satisfy guidelines established by third party payers.
- 3. The physical therapist must critically evaluate any third-party incentive payment program to ensure that it is not based purely on profit and/or length of stay desired by the third-party payer.