

SCPT Practice Resource

Infection Control

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

12. Practice in a safe, competent, accountable and responsible manner during the provision of services.

13. Take all reasonable steps to prevent harm to clients. Should harm occur disclose it to the client and others as required.

17. Enhance their expertise through lifelong acquisition and refinement of knowledge, skills, abilities and professional behaviours.

B. Responsibilities to the Public

1. Conduct and present themselves with integrity and professionalism.

Practice Resource

1. Physical therapists should:
 - a) keep immunizations up to date and documented;

- b) follow proper hand washing techniques before and after patient/client contact, which
- c) may include the use of appropriate waterless scrubs;
- d) follow appropriate barrier/universal precautions and proper isolation techniques;
- e) follow approved procedures for use and disposal of sharps and properly report any needle stick/sharp injury for appropriate treatment and monitoring;
- f) ensure proper equipment decontamination;
- g) have disposable resuscitation equipment available to minimize mouth-to-mouth contact;
- h) handle waste management in accordance with applicable legislation and guidelines;
- i) should follow set industrial and infection control standards in collecting, bagging, transporting, washing and drying of laundry/linen used in physical therapy practice;
- j) follow approved procedures for clean-up of spills involving blood or body fluids;
- k) provide care in the best hygienic environment possible;
- l) refrain from all patient/client contact while affected by open lesions that cannot be contained or covered;
- m) consult with the local Medical Health Officer in the health authority in relation to other situations not addressed by these guidelines.