

Equipment Calibration

The Nova Scotia College of Physiotherapists¹ has developed the following Advisory Statement to provide guidance to our members on the calibration of equipment as required to meet the *Professional Practice Standards for Physiotherapists*.

WHAT TO CALIBRATE?

All electrical treatment modalities that plug into the wall outlets must be calibrated. Battery operated units such as TENS units and Muscle Stimulators that are portable and available over the counter in most drugstores etc. do not need to be calibrated. The output of these units is somewhat dependent on the age of the batteries. You must always check the batteries, electrodes, wires etc. for any defects or wear.

WHEN TO CALIBRATE?

The timing for calibration and servicing of your electrical equipment is annually, or as indicated in the manufacturer's recommendations associated with that particular piece of equipment. The College requires that this be documented and proof of same be made available to our assessors when they are onsite.

WHAT ABOUT OUTLETS?

All outlets must be properly installed, grounded and meet standard electrical codes. Documentation of initial installation and/or recent inspection of these must be made available to our onsite assessor.

Physiotherapists are accountable for all aspects of the service they deliver. This includes a safe practice setting.

Ref: Professional Practice Standards for Physiotherapists February 2008, Sec I- 4(F) and Sec.VII-15

¹ *Physical therapist, physiotherapist, physical therapy, physiotherapy, physiothérapie, physiothérapeute, PT and pht* are official marks used with permission.