

Responsibility in the Workplace

Preamble

The Nova Scotia College of Physiotherapists regulates the practice of physiotherapy¹ in Nova Scotia through the administration of the *Physiotherapy Act* and regulations.

Members are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure that the standards of the College are maintained in their practice setting. There must be agreement with the employer to assure that the workplace operates in compliance with the Professional Practice Standards.

Definitions (For the purposes of this Practice Standard):

Workplace refers to the employment setting, or any environment in which the physiotherapist conducts their client care.

Legislative Authority

Section 81 states that relationship of a physiotherapist to a corporation (owner, shareholder, or employee) does not affect or diminish the application of the Act and Regulations to the physiotherapist. Section 49(1) and 59(3) c of Schedule "A" Regulations further address the practice setting of the physiotherapist.

Workplace Responsibility

All aspects of your practice must comply with College Standards. Ensure that you are aware of your workplace policies on advertising, billing, use of support personnel and record keeping and that your Professional Standards are being met. You must have a written/verbal Employment Offer/ agreement from your employer and you are obligated as a licensed physiotherapist in NS to ensure that such agreements enable you to be compliant with the Act, Regulations and Practice Standards of the College of Physiotherapists.

Obligations:

1. Responsibility/authority for all decisions related to the standards of physiotherapy professional practice.
2. Ability to comply with the requirements of the Legislation, Regulations, Standards and Code of Ethics of the physiotherapy profession, unhindered.

¹ The terms physical therapist, physiotherapist, physiotherapy, physiotherapy, and, PT are protected terms used with permission. The terms physical therapist and physical therapy are synonyms for physiotherapist and physiotherapy respectively.

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3. Access to invoices for service and final authority to revoke or alter any fee attributed to your license number.
4. Access to the client records, both during employment and after employment ceases, if required to fulfill your professional obligations.
5. Authority to make all decisions related to supervision of support personnel and assignment of task in accordance with the College Standards.

Standards Ref: *Professional Practice Standards Competency Based* available on our website. Also available on the website under our Quality Practice Program are assessment tools and checklists to help you in your practice.

Other available references are:

<https://www.novascotia.ca/just/regulations/regs/ohsgensf.htm>

<http://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/prevention/universa.html>

<http://novascotia.ca/lae/healthandsafety/>

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REPLACES: NEW (To replace Position Statement on Workplace Obligations)
