

To: and all other Physiotherapists in Nova Scotia



NSCP NEWSLETTER: SPRING EDITION, May 22, 2017

OF SPECIAL INTEREST: This has just come to my attention...

A local physiotherapist has been credited with saving the life of a "Hockey Dad" this winter at the Bowles Arena in Dartmouth. The gentleman was having a massive heart attack and the immediate action, calm manner, and "suggestion" that EMS take him straight to the HI site allowed the medical team to save his life. The team at the HI told his wife that he would likely have died without the physiotherapist's instincts, care, immediate activation of 911, and canvassing those around/spectators for aspirin, then having him chew two while waiting for the ambulance.

Many observers "thought she was a nurse" but she proudly informed them "I am a physiotherapist...I can help."

We should all be feeling proud to be a physiotherapist after hearing this, and we should be especially proud of our peer for her quick and effective response!

ONSITE PEER REVIEWS

Onsite Peer Reviews Will be continuing this spring/summer

We have randomly chosen sites from around the province for onsite assessment. We will use the feedback from both the sites and the Assessors to revise and improve our process on an ongoing basis.

Sites chosen will be notified by the end of May at the latest.

Please remember...It is your legal responsibility to notify the Registrar of any change in your practice status within 7 days, and to keep the Office informed of any changes to your name, your home address, your email address and your place of employment.

We post an up-to-date directory on our website to assist insurers and potential clients in their search for practitioners.

Point to Ponder over Coffee...



We must never be too complacent about being self-regulated and about doing it right!

It was recently reported that personal trainers were using the initials PT after their name. The college was quick to take action and the signs, advertising etc. are in the process of being changed with the misleading use of PT being removed. As a PT you can certainly approach individuals and inform them of violations under our legislation...many are not doing things deliberately, but rather out of ignorance. However, this is also a reminder that we as physiotherapists should be using only the **professional title PT** after our names, not any other initials such as academic degrees or certification designations. These must all go on a line after/below the name and title. Please refer to [Practice Standard on Use of Title](#). If we do not regularly use our professional designation, and use it appropriately, it will become very hard to defend our right to maintain it as "use of title".

Join us in Welcoming the 'NEW' NS COLLEGE OF PHYSIOTHERAPISTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Aimee Cooke	Board Chair / Personnel Comm.
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Shanna Thompson	Member / Member Practice Standards Comm.
Wayne Carlon	Lay Representative / Peer Assessment Comm.
Vacant	Lay Representative

[Patrick King, Exec Director and Joan Ross, Registrar (&Alliance Rep.) are the staff members.]

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We encourage all our members to regularly visit our website and check for news updates, new standards or drafts, updated Member Lists (verify that your own information is accurate), check out our Quality Practice Program with self-assessment tools and many more exciting things. Send Pat an email (office@nsphysio.com) if a change or update is required.

Recently added on the Website: [Roster Request Form](#); See Rosters below.

Registrar's Corner...

As we go down the path of legislation review, I am asking you, the members, to give serious consideration to what doesn't work for you in the current legislation, and what changes you would like to see being made.

There are national initiatives on topics such as Core Physiotherapy Standards, National Code of Ethics and National Jurisprudence exam; all in the interests of more consistency in expectations for practice as physiotherapists move from province to province or are participating in Tele-rehabilitation practices. You all had a chance to provide input into those processes and now you also have a chance to provide input on how practice should look in Nova Scotia.

Please remember to be thoughtful of the reason we are privileged to be self regulating... and that is because government feels that physiotherapists know best how to protect the public in the provision of physiotherapy services. This is not about making physiotherapists more money or about providing marginal or excessive services. It is about improving on what we do to ensure that Nova Scotians are being provided with evidence-based, appropriate, safe, and effective services, in a safe environment.

Please send me an email with your thoughtful suggestions or questions for clarification. Look at what our scope actually is and consider whether or not you currently practice to scope, before pushing for extended scope, or advanced practice.

ROSTERS

As I mentioned in the previous letter I have created 'in house' Rosters of members with advanced skills and focused practice in treating pelvic floor, vestibular dysfunction, TMJ, spinal manipulation, as well as those with AA2 acupuncture certification or higher and FCAMT manual therapy certification. Those members who have completed certified programs in any of these areas, who maintain currency and competency as required by their program and who use this knowledge and skill regularly in practice are eligible to place their name on the roster if they choose to. The purpose of the roster is to enable me to appropriately direct individuals who call and request practitioners who perform specific services. If you are interested, please download the [Roster Request Form](#), complete it, and send it in to the Registrar.

AND ON TO SkyPort and CE Recording - IMPORTANT!!

GUIDE TO LOGGING CE ACTIVITIES IN SKYPORT

Effective June 1, 2017

It is planned by the NSCP that for the 2018 Renewals process, in November of 2017, you will **not** be asked how many CE hours you earned in 2017. You will not be asked because you will be expected to record your 2017 CE Events in SkyPort before you renew your license and that number will appear on your renewal application form online. E.g. if you have entered no events on your SkyPort for 2017 then a "0" will appear in the box: *CE hours earned in 2017*. Yes, instead of recording your CE Events on the forms we used to provide, now you will record them on your SkyPort. This will save you time in the end, it will also mean no scrambling around trying to update and transfer CE event information every five years when your Portfolio is up for review or for that matter annually when you have to tell us how many hours you earned in the current year. So bookmark or place an icon on your desktop for SkyPort, do it now, such that you will get in the habit of recording your readings, your CE activities, courses etc etc. Book Mark this page: [SkyPort Entrance](#)

Also as you are aware once every five years the Peer Assessment Committee Assessors review your Portfolio; this includes your SkyPort. Part of this responsibility includes the ability of the assessor to validate the **CE events** that has been listed. As a minimum, we request the name, location and date of the course/event, and the length of the event in hours, in order to conduct a thorough assessment. However past Portfolio reviews of CE Annual Logs have **in a few cases** not provided sufficient information such that the assessor can validate the event. Effective from June 1, 2017, on a go forward bases, all CE events logged into SkyPort are to follow the examples as outlined in the guideline: [Recording Continuing Education on SkyPort](#). Pre June 1, 2017 CE recordings can remain as you have them catalogued now, but after June 1, 2017 the new guidelines are in effect.

To enter SkyPort you need your Registration Number: Number and Password: Password

New Advisory

Own a physiotherapy clinic(s) in NS and /or am no longer interested in Practicing Clinical Physiotherapy? Decided on a different career path other than clinical physiotherapy, but need to be licensed as a Physiotherapist. Then you need to read this new Advisory: "[Practicing vrs Practicing NC - License](#)". And if you decide this is for you, make sure you contact Joan or Pat at the office to discuss.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM HEALTH CANADA

Risk of Serious Skin Burns With Over-the-Counter Topical Pain Relievers Containing Menthol

Health Canada is advising Canadians that a safety review has found a risk of serious skin burns with the use of certain over-the-counter (OTC) topical pain relievers containing menthol. From the available data, it

was not possible to determine whether the risk of serious skin burns is linked to any specific brand, formulation or menthol concentration, or any ingredient other than menthol.

To read the full safety alert please visit: <http://healthy Canadians.gc.ca/recallalert-rappel-avis/hc-sc/2017/62178aeng.php>

ELECTROPHYSICAL FORUM

Do you have questions about, or an interest in, electrophysical agents?

If so, you'll be interested in the recently launched Electrophysical Forum at:

<http://www.electrophysicalforum.org/>. The Electrophysical Forum is an international initiative aimed at providing an interactive electronic platform for questions, comments, discussions and opinions related to the use of electrophysical agents in physical therapy.

The Forum is supported by an internationally-renowned expert panel and a broad sphere of clinicians, researchers, educators and students— <http://www.Electrophysicalforum.org/academics>

The intent of the Forum is to address and share clinically relevant questions related to the selection and application of electrophysical agents so as to enable evidence-informed practice with modalities such as Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation (TENS), Ultrasound, Low Level Light Therapy (LASER) and Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation (NMES).

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