

August 14, 2008

I support HPRAC for this timely review of the physiotherapy scope of practice. As reported in the submission from the College of Physiotherapists of Ontario (CPO) and the Ontario Physiotherapy Association (OPA), physiotherapists have been advocating for a change in the scope of practice to more accurately reflect "physiotherapy education, competencies and practice activities". Broadening the scope of practice of physiotherapy as proposed with the addition of the controlled acts, will assist physiotherapists in providing the highest quality evidence based care to our patients.

As a physiotherapist working in the area of professional practice and advocating for physiotherapists in the acute care setting, all of the proposed changes will facilitate treatments by physiotherapists in various clinical areas. The ability to communicate a diagnosis is paramount for therapists working in today's health care environment.

The additional controlled acts each have a very specific clinical area and the addition of these acts will greatly benefit the treatment of clients in each area. More globally, the ability to administer oxygen will affect many areas of acute care and assist physiotherapists in their ability to safely mobilize and efficiently progress the treatment of a variety of clients.

Thank you for requesting an updated scope of practice and the invitation to comment on the proposal submitted. I look forward to the continued development of physiotherapy's scope of practice.

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