

UPDATE

Newsletter of The College of Physical Therapists of B.C.

PRACTICE ADVISOR HIRED

Susan Paul, the new Practice Advisor will oversee the College's continuing competence program.

Ms. Paul received her bachelor's degree in physiotherapy (honours) from Queen's University in 1994 and was registered in Ontario from 1994-1997 and since 1997 in BC. She now works as a consultant and has developed a program of adult education to reduce the incidence of work-related injuries. Her past clinical experience involves developing and operating a work-conditioning program at 8 Rinks Physiotherapy Clinic in Burnaby, working as a staff physiotherapist at an injured worker's clinic in an Ontario hospital, and working in stroke rehabilitation. She has been a guest lecturer at UBC in outcome measures and an examiner for the Physiotherapy Competency Examination, and was active in the Ontario Physiotherapy Association. Following the completion of an outstanding investigation, Ms. Paul will resign from her position as an Investigator for the College's Inquiry Committee.

Susan Paul is working two days per week on a flexible schedule and can be contacted at 604-313-9618. Please join me in giving her a warm welcome.

CONTINUING COMPETENCY— PILOT PROJECT UNDERWAY

Development of the professional portfolio is now complete and a pilot project is underway. A group of 32 volunteers have kindly agreed to complete the portfolio this summer and provide feedback to the College. The completed portfolios will be returned to the College by the end of August and changes will be made to reflect registrant feedback. The College has asked for feedback about how long it takes registrants to complete the portfolio, the clarity of instructions, and whether registrants would be interested in completing the portfolio online. All registrants will be asked to complete the portfolio voluntarily this fall, and completion will be mandatory prior to renewing registration for 2004.

The portfolio is broken down into four sections. Part one involves a self-assessment where registrants are asked to reflect on their practice, and a framework is provided to calculate practice hours. Part two will

guide registrants through a regulatory review of practice standards contained in the College's Bylaws. Part three of the portfolio provides an opportunity to highlight areas of strength as well as potential learning gaps identified in the section on regulatory review. Part four encourages registrants to develop an individualized plan to address the learning needs identified while completing the portfolio. Registrants may round out their professional portfolio by including their CV, performance appraisals, continuing education certificates, and feedback from clients.

Once a registrant has completed the portfolio it will be a file of his or her professional experience and accomplishments to be updated annually.

An annual audit of a percentage of portfolios is planned but has yet to be finalized. *Unless you are audited you will not submit your portfolio to the College.* The College, along with a number of other regulatory bodies, is involved in lobbying the government to enact policy that will protect any continuing competency records from being used against registrants in civil or disciplinary proceedings.

Any questions about the College's continuing competency program? Call Susan Paul at 604-313-9618.



KINESIOLOGISTS' APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION AS A HEALTH PROFESSION

Kinesiology has applied to the Health Professions Council for designation as a health profession under the *Health Professions Act*. The College is working with PABC and UBC on a joint task force to respond to the Council's request for comments. The Task Force's position is that the Council should not designate kinesiology as a health profession.

ENCLOSURES:

- 1) Clinical Practice Statement No.12
- 2) Transfer of Function - No.3A
- 3) Transfer of Function - No.3B

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MESSAGE THERAPISTS-DEFINITION OF MEDICAL ELECTRICITY

Massage Therapists are restricted by law from using 'medical electricity'. The College of Massage Therapists is reconsidering the definition of medical electricity. The CPTBC is providing input to CMT about the inherent risks in the use of medical electricity and the theoretical and practical training required to use it safely.

DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION OF ACUPUNCTURE CERTIFICATION

The educational qualifications in the enclosed Clinical Practice Statement No. 12 – Acupuncture and Intramuscular Stimulation become effective September 1, 2003.

The College received eight written and one verbal comment on the draft Clinical Practice Statement, which was published for comment with the winter *Update*. After reviewing and responding to the comments, the Committee clarified ongoing education in the areas of acupuncture and IMS.

AFCI Course Schedule:

Vancouver Level 1	November 23-24, 2002
Calgary Level 1 2A & 3A	March 7-10, 2003
Calgary written & oral	May 31, 2003
Vancouver written & oral	January 31, 2004

Other courses and times are available across Canada. For further information log on to: www.afcinstitute.com.

Acupuncture courses are also available at the University of Alberta.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTION

The College is publishing amendments to Clinical Practice Statement No. 3 for comment. To distinguish between the different skill sets of workers to whom physiotherapists transfer functions, the College has prepared two separate Statements, enclosed, one for "Support Workers" and the other for "Health Care Workers". Please address comments to the Transfer of Function Sub-committee by October 15, 2002.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S REMARKS TO THE COLLEGE'S 2002 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Many physiotherapists who were unable to attend the College's 2002 annual general meeting expressed interest in seeing the remarks of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, Iona Campagnolo, and the College's keynote speaker. Her Honour's remarks are included in this *Update*.

MEMBER ADVISORY

USE OF 'SPECIALIST'

In light of the delisting of physiotherapy from MSP and current economic climate, some physiotherapists are marketing their practices more aggressively. A number of registrants have asked the College in what circumstances they may describe themselves as 'specialists'. The College's Bylaws prohibit a physical therapist from using the title 'specialist' or any similar designation suggesting a recognized special status or accreditation on any letterhead, business card or other marketing activity. The College is contributing to discussions at the national level with the Canadian Physiotherapy Association and the Canadian Alliance of *Physiotherapy* Regulators about specialization and the use of credentials. As these issues cross provincial borders, the College will wait to determine the national direction before making any changes to the Bylaws.

TRADE NAMES

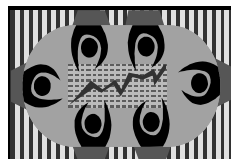
Although unlike health profession corporations, the College does not regulate what trade name a physical therapist may use, section 58 of the Bylaws does provide that a physical therapist must not use a name that is identical to the name of another established physical therapy clinic in the community or so closely resembles the name of another established physical therapy clinic that it is likely to confuse or mislead the public.

PHYSICAL THERAPISTS IN PUBLIC PRACTICE WHO ENGAGE IN SELF-REFERRAL

Where no other physical therapist is available in a very small center, it would not be a conflict of interest to self-refer a client to the therapist's own private practice. Otherwise to avoid a conflict of interest, a physical therapist should offer two additional alternatives in addition to their own private practice. Further, physical therapists must disclose any interest or ownership in a practice to the client. Physical therapists should also consider whether the self-referral would result in a duplication of services, which should be avoided. Physical therapists must not treat a client solely for financial gain.

EXPEDITING REGISTRATION

In response to feedback, the Registration Committee is now reviewing applications weekly AND, if



possible, will make its decision on applications by Wednesday so that interim registrants can begin work on the following Monday.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

The College held its first strategic planning session in five years on June 21, 2002. UBC and PABC participated. Recommendations to the Board include revising the College's mandate, vision and values, developing a communications plan, and collaborating with PABC and UBC to address common issues. The College is off to a running start, as its Board will be meeting with the PABC's Board on September 20, 2002 to discuss how better to work together, and separately, on issues affecting the public and the profession.

EDUCATIONAL FRAMEWORK

Susan Paul, the College's new Practice Advisor, will be representing the College at the working group looking into establishing an educational framework for physiotherapists in British Columbia.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

The Board has struck an editorial committee to review the purpose, content, tone and format of the *Update*. This Committee wants your feedback about how to make the *Update* more readable and relevant to your practice. Forward your comments to the attention of the Editorial Committee by September 30, 2002.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Sindi Hawkins, Minister of Health Planning, has appointed Melissa Holland as a Public Representative to the College's Board for a one-year term. Ms. Holland, who has an MBA and brings a business background to the College's Board, is a senior consultant in the area of strategy and transformation with Cap Gemini Ernst & Young. The College gives a hearty thanks to departed Public Representative, Mardy Scales, for her over-a-year's service on the College's Board. Thanks as well to Susan Paul and Kirstin Russell for acting as Investigators for the College since May 2001. Ms. Paul has become the College's Practice Advisor and Ms. Russell has returned to Australia.

MORE INVESTIGATORS NEEDED

Are you interested in working as an investigator for the College? If so, please forward a resume to the College by September 30, 2002. Contact the Registrar for further information.

INQUIRY SUMMARIES

010308

Professional misconduct and incompetence

A client alleged a physical therapist increased her pain and aggravated her work-related injury through a manipulation. On the evidence before the Committee, the physical therapist had conducted an adequate initial assessment, developed an appropriate treatment plan and conducted a pre-manipulation test. The investigation did not substantiate the allegations and the Committee took no further action.

010312

Incompetence

On appeal, the Board referred this matter back to the Inquiry Committee. The Committee requested the physical therapist to enter an undertaking to ensure his charting complies with Clinical Practice Statement No. 1 – Clinical records.

010321

Competence and professional misconduct

A client alleged that a physical therapist's treatment of her neck and back pain exacerbated her pain and her manner bordered on harassment. During the investigation, the client refused to release sufficient clinical records to allow the Committee to take further action with respect to the exacerbation of pain. The evidence was also insufficient to support the allegation of harassment and the Committee took no further action.

010419

Professional misconduct/incompetence

A client alleged that a physical therapist's treatment for a work-related injury to his right shoulder, which involved directing him to bend backwards over a medicine ball, made his pain worse and resulted in chronic low back pain. The investigation did not substantiate the allegations and the Committee took no further action. The Board refused an appeal of the Committee's decision.

010423

Advertising

Another physical therapist complained that a physical therapist's advertisement and website contained the words "specializing in sports injuries and orthopaedics" contrary to section 58 of the College's Bylaws. The physical therapist agreed to amend his advertising and the Committee took no further action.

010511A

Competence

The Board refused the appeal.

010511B

Professional conduct

The Board refused the appeal.

010515

Professional misconduct – exacerbation of injury

A client alleged that the physical therapist vigorously pulled on his right leg, causing severe pain and damage to his sciatic nerve and muscles. The evidence gathered in the investigation did not support the allegations therefore the Committee took no further action.

010608

Incompetence and professional misconduct – exacerbation of injury

A client complained that a physical therapist designed a treatment program, which involved "aggressive physical therapy" and was implemented by another physical therapist, who was the subject of a separate complaint. The treatment program required him to bend backward over a medicine ball, resulting in chronic lumbar pain. A second issue arose during the investigation, namely whether the physical therapist violated confidentiality in a conversation he had with WCB, which the client says resulted in WCB denying his claim. The investigation revealed that a physician, and not the physical therapist, had designed the treatment program. When the client reported lumbar pain to the respondent, the evidence suggested that the respondent altered the client's exercise routine. As the client's chart did not contain a consent to release information, the Committee initially requested the physical therapist consent to a reprimand. However, the Committee subsequently withdrew its request on the basis that the College had not been sufficiently clear that physical therapists, and not WCB alone, must obtain consent to release of information. The matter was appealed to the Board and the Board refused the appeal. The Inquiry Committee will be issuing a practice directive on the issue of obtaining consent to release information.

010801

Professional misconduct

A client alleged that her physical therapist required her to perform activities "aggressively, without due care and attention", made unprofessional comments about her and other patients, told her to cancel her doctor's appointment, and did not adequately supervise her treatment in a work conditioning program. The investigation did not substantiate the allegations and the Committee took no further action.

010913

Incompetence and professional misconduct – exacerbation of injury

A client complained his physical therapist "yarded" on his arm during an examination maneuver further injuring his back and resulting in his being unable to continue with a WCB Program. He also complained that the physical therapist had told WCB that he was not cooperating with the treatment, which resulted in WCB terminating his claim. The evidence from the investigation did not support the allegations

and the Committee took no further action.

011011

Incompetence and professional misconduct – exacerbation of injury

A client complained that a physical therapist caused him pain during treatment with the result that his doctor found that he could not lift heavy objects following treatment. He also complained that the therapist watched television during treatment. Upon investigation, the Committee found that while communication appeared to have broken down, there was insufficient evidence to support the allegations and it took no further action.

011027

Professional misconduct - boundaries

A client complained that a physical therapist failed to obtain her consent to treatment, did not offer to drape her during treatment and infringed on her personal space. Upon investigation, the Committee had no cause to take action about failing to obtain consent. The Committee was concerned that the physical therapist's office policy did not meet the profession's practice standards because it required the *client* to request a gown rather than the *physical therapist* to offer it. The Committee requested the physical therapist to amend his policy so that all female clients are offered gowns, ensure that anyone working under his control or direction and whom he employs comply with this policy, review *Where's My Line? Information for Health Care Professionals about Defining and Respecting Personal Boundaries in Health Care Relationships*, and be cognizant of clients personal boundaries.

011116

Professional Misconduct – Billing

A physical therapist pleaded guilty to one count of defrauding the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia of not more than \$5000 and one count of defrauding the Ministry of Health of not more than \$5000. The physical therapist agreed to a voluntary suspension of his practice pending the resolution of the matter. The physical therapist then agreed to cancellation of his registration and not to apply for registration for at least 18 months.

011129

Professional misconduct

A client complained that a physical therapist behaved unprofessionally with her and told her that if she didn't have physiotherapy four times a week WCB would cut off her claim. The investigation did not support these allegations. The Inquiry Committee became concerned about an apparent high volume of patients that the physical therapist was treating, which was investigated and found not to exceed the normal treatment standard. As part of the investigation, the physical therapist submitted a certified true copy of the client's clinical records, which he subsequently admitted

he had altered by adding a missing date. The Committee acknowledges that he did so to assist the Committee with its review of the chart. However, charts should never be altered other than in accordance with Clinical Practice Statement No. 1 – Clinical Records. The integrity of record-keeping is paramount. The Committee requested the physical therapist to consent to a reprimand. This case is under appeal to the Board.

020325

Professional misconduct

A former employee complained that a physical therapist had closed her practice and other physical therapists and former patients were having difficulty obtaining clinical records. The College's investigator mediated resolution of the complaint. The physical therapist culled the large volume of records according to the retention schedule for clinical records contained in Clinical Practice Statement No. 1 – Clinical Records. She then transferred the records to another physical therapist. The Committee acknowledged that the physical therapist's personal circumstances had lead her to overlook the requirements of the College's By-laws about safeguarding the confidentiality of the clinical records, their safe and secure storage and providing access to them. The Committee took no further action.

020415

Professional misconduct

A client complained that a physical therapist would not issue her a duplicate receipt for physiotherapy services without charging an administrative fee. The physical therapist subsequently provided a receipt and the Committee took no further action.

ENCLOSURES

- Lieutenant Governor's remarks to College AGM
- Draft Clinical Practice Statement No. 3A – Transfer of Function – Health Care Worker
- Draft Clinical Practice Statement No. 3B – Transfer of Function – Physical Therapist Support Worker
- Clinical Practice Statement No. 12 – Acupuncture [Practice Directive 02/02– Confidentiality [include if time, else next issue]
- Practice Directive 03/02 – Disposal of Clinical Records on Closure of Practice

Vancouver Coastal
Health Authority

North Shore/Coast Garibaldi, Vancouver & Richmond

PAEDIATRIC PHYSIOTHERAPIST

In School Support Program/Nursing Support Services

Regular full-time position available

The Vancouver/Richmond Health Board is currently recruiting for an enthusiastic physiotherapist to join our multi-disciplinary team working with special needs children in the Vancouver School District. You will provide consultative services to students, kindergarten to Grade 12, who are referred to our program.

Primary responsibilities include assessments, provision of recommendations to school personnel and families, training and monitoring of special education assistants, determination of equipment needs, assessment of safety and accessibility issues, development and provision of workshops and inservices and liaison with outside medical and educational agencies.

Qualifications:

- Graduation from university or approved school with a degree or diploma in Physiotherapy.
- Registration with the College of Physical Therapists of BC.
- Preferably two years paediatric experience.
- Own transportation required for which mileage is reimbursed.

Salary Range: \$23.68 -\$29.53 per hour

Please send a detailed resume, quoting **Reference # U-P00.047** to:

Vancouver Coastal
Health Authority
North Shore/Coast Garibaldi, Vancouver & Richmond

Human Resources Department
520 West 6th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5Z 4H5
Fax: (604) 736-7389, Email: abatt@vrhb.bc.ca

For further information regarding this and other opportunities with the Vancouver/Richmond Health Board, please visit our site at www.workopolis.com

Eagle Ridge Hospital

Physiotherapist

Regular Full-time

The Simon Fraser Health Region (SFHR) is an evolving health care region providing a wide array of health services to the residents of New Westminster, Burnaby, the Tri-Cities, Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge. SFHR is committed to delivering progressive physiotherapeutic care to clients throughout the Region. Located in Port Moody, Eagle Ridge Hospital's Neuro-rehabilitation program services the entire Region and is an established centre of excellence for inpatients and day patients with neurological diagnoses. We are currently seeking a Physiotherapist with experience in treating neurological conditions, specifically stroke and head injury, to join our multidisciplinary team at Eagle Ridge Hospital.

You will maintain the Region's high standard of excellence as you provide physiotherapy treatment and promote physiotherapy services to patients in Neuro Rehab.

You are a graduate of a recognized school of Physiotherapy or Rehabilitation Medicine (a Bachelor's degree is preferred) with several years' related experience. Familiarity with treating lower extremity amputees is an asset. You must be licensed by the College of Physical Therapists of BC and be eligible for membership with the C.P.A. If you are a qualified Physiotherapist with the drive and desire to make a difference in the lives of others, please send your resume, in confidence, to: **Simon Fraser Health Region, Human Resource Services, 475 Guildford Way, Port Moody, BC V3H 3W9. Fax: 604-469-3245 or email: verna_campbell@sfhr.hnet.bc.ca**

We thank all applicants; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

www.sfhr.com



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – PRACTICE ADVISOR

The position

The College of Physical Therapists of British Columbia (CPTBC) is the regulatory body for physical therapists for British Columbia's 2800 registered physical therapists. The CPTBC is seeking a Practice Advisor for its new Continuing Competence Program. This is a part-time position beginning on or after March 31, 2002. The Practice Advisor will work a maximum of 104 days per year (two days per week) and will be flexible in structuring her time to meet peak periods. The number of days may increase depending on need.

Reporting to the Registrar, the successful candidate will implement and administer the CPTBC's Continuing Competence Program. As the Program is currently being developed, the Practice Advisor will have the opportunity to finalize the development of the Program, oversee the pilot and be involved in developing related policies and procedures. The Practice Advisor will also address registrants' questions about clinical practice to ensure the public's satisfaction with physical therapy services in British Columbia. The successful candidate will work with other Canadian and American physical therapy regulators.

Travel, primarily in British Columbia, but also in Canada and the United States, is required.

The requirements

You are a registered physical therapist or are eligible for registration in BC and have at least three years' clinical experience. Throughout your career, you have engaged in professional development, and you have an interest in education, research and the development of competence. You possess management, organizational, and research skills or experience overseeing the conduct of research. You are a strong verbal and written communicator and are able to explain things clearly and succinctly. You have an insight into regional differences in clinical practice. You are computer literate (Word, Excel, Outlook Express, Paradox, PowerPoint, desktop publishing). You are flexible and able to work at home during the first few months. A Master's in education business administration or physiotherapy is preferred.

Compensation

The CPTBC offers a competitive salary. Benefits currently take the form of a percentage of gross salary.

Deadline for applications

March 15, 2002

To obtain an application package, please email Irish Rose Macalino, Acting Administrative Assistant, at arlene_gloria@cptbc.org.

Update is a publication of the College of Physical Therapists of British Columbia and is intended to keep registrants informed about current professional issues. It is published three times a year - Spring, Summer and Fall. We welcome information of interest to CPTBC registrants. The editor retains the right to determine content.

College of Physical Therapists of British Columbia

Practice Advisor for Continuing
Competence Program

For more information about this exciting new part-time position, see our advertisement on the inside back cover of this *UPDATE*.

Deadline for applications: March 15, 2002.

ADVERTISING RATES AND DEADLINES

Advertisements for employment opportunities and educational/course announcements are suitable for publication.

Deadlines: January 15, May 15, and August 15

Rates: \$50 up to 3 ¼" x 3 ¼"
\$75 3 ¼" x 4 ½"
\$100 3 ¼" x 8 ½"
\$200 full page

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College of Physical Therapists of BC
407-1755 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC V6J 4S5

Tel: (604) 730-9193

Fax: (604) 737-6809

Website: <http://www.cptbc.org>

Email: info@cptbc.org

The perfect balance of work and lifestyle

The Calgary Health Region is one of the **largest** fully integrated health regions in North America, and we currently have a number of **Physical Therapist** opportunities available in our community or acute care sectors.

As a return for your commitment and contributions we offer a challenging and rewarding work environment, competitive compensation, with **benefits**, and relocation assistance up to \$8000.

Calgary supports an affordable and active lifestyle, with a thriving arts scenes and cosmopolitan atmosphere, all within an hour's drive of the majestic Rocky Mountains and Banff National Park. A big city without big city problems, her friendly people welcome visitors and newcomers to share in the Western Canadian heritage and lifestyle.

As a condition of employment, all new employees must provide a criminal records check in compliance with the Protection for Persons in Care Act.

Call us **toll free** at 1-877-713-5333, or contact us directly **Nicole Zander**, Community Health, Ph. 403-943-1313, email nicole.zander@calgaryhealthregion.ca
Wilma Dodge, Acute Care, Ph. 403-943-1314, email wilma.dodge@calgaryhealthregion.ca

Your resume may be forwarded to:

Calgary Health Region, 10101 Southport Road,
Calgary, Alberta T2W 3N2 Fax 403-943-1330

Please visit our website at www.calgaryhealthregion.ca
for more information on current opportunities.



calgary health region

