



PRACTICE STATEMENT

Practice Statement
Number: 4.4

Approved by Council: November 14, 2000

Issued:

Updated:

Replaced:

TOPIC: SAFE, SANITARY AND APPROPRIATE ENVIRONMENT

All physiotherapists have a responsibility to ensure that the standards of the profession are met. Systems are required to allow for the effective provision of services in a safe, clean and appropriate environment.

- Adequate space must be available for reception and waiting area, for individual assessment and/or treatment, for group activities, such as exercise, for staff to complete documentation requirements and for the storage of client records.
- Privacy must be provided for clients and staff when there is a need to change clothing before or after treatment.
- Adequate visual and auditory privacy must be provided for all assessments and treatments.
- Gowns and sheets should be available to provide adequate draping for clients.
- Sufficient linen including towels, sheets and pillow cases should be available to maintain a high standard of hygiene within the practice.
- Clients must be well supervised at all times. Therefore call bells or another type of alarm system must be available for clients who are not under direct visual supervision.
- Guidelines on infection control should be maintained observing universal precautions and clean techniques.
- Emergency exits should be clearly marked and unobstructed.
- An annually maintained fire extinguisher(s) should be readily available in the area.
- A first aid kit should be properly maintained and readily available.

References & Acknowledgement:

Ontario Guidelines for Conducting a Clinical Physiotherapy Practice
Alberta Standards

Legislative Reference:

Regulations Schedule A – Standards of Practice 1(2)

A Practice Statement is a formal position of the College with which members shall comply.