

4.27 Selling Nutritional Supplements

Policy:

The selling of nutritional supplements in a physiotherapy practice is considered to be outside the scope of physiotherapy practice.

Physiotherapists typically have been considered “drugless” practitioners. In the undergraduate training of physiotherapists, prescribing and selling nutritional supplements has not been included in the curriculum.

Within the definition of “Practice of Physiotherapy” in *The Physiotherapists Act*,

The practice of physiotherapy is the assessment and treatment of the body by physical or mechanical means for the purpose of restoring, maintaining or promoting physical function, mobility or health, or to relieve pain.

The lack of reference in this definition to the prescribing or selling of nutritional supplements combined with the absence of undergraduate or graduate courses for physiotherapists in the area of nutritional supplements is the basis for the Council determining that providing or selling nutritional supplements to the public is not within the scope of physiotherapy practice. College members are advised against practicing in this area.