



Policy Title: Performing Dry Needling	Replaces former policy: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Title: CPTBC 04 Performing Dry Needling Policy <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Applies to: Physical Therapy	Date Effective: 2024-06-28
	Last Update: Select date
Contact: Name of Policy Owner	

Policy Statement:

A Full Registrant of the Designated Health Profession of Physical Therapy (a “Registrant”) must apply to the College prior to performing dry needling in their practice. An annotation will be added to the Registrant’s entry on the public register upon approval of the application by the College.

A Registrant seeking to perform dry needling must:

- Be a Full Registrant in good standing with the College, and
- Have at least two years of physical therapy practice experience and a minimum of 3,900 practice hours, and
- Have successfully completed a course listed in Appendix A, and
- Submit an application form and any related documents, as determined by the College.

1. Policy Rationale and Purpose:

Physical therapists have been using dry needling in their practice in B.C. since before they were regulated, but this treatment was not formally recognized in the Physical Therapists Regulation until 2024. The College has therefore regulated the practice through policy.

2. Policy Scope:

This policy applies to Registrants of the Designated Health Profession of Physical Therapy in the registration class of Full.

3. Legal Authority:

- *Health Professions Act*, Section 16(2)



- Physical Therapists Regulation

4. Key Partnerships:

- Dry needling education providers

5. Definitions:

Dry needling – A treatment technique that uses solid filament needles to puncture the skin for therapeutic purposes; includes a range of approaches, such as acupuncture, trigger point dry needling and intramuscular stimulation

6. Process Check:

- Board Policy Framework
- Safe Spaces Playbook
- Other:

7. Resources/References:

N/A

Reviewed by the Board on:		Select date	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Reviewed by the Registrar/Deputy Registrar on:		Select date	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Date Approved Select date	Approved By <input type="checkbox"/> Board <input type="checkbox"/> Committee (<i>Name of Committee</i>) OR Name <i>Full Name</i> Title <i>Title</i>		
Date Effective Select date	Revision history	Last Updated:	Select date
Next Review Select date		Previous Update:	Select date
Drafted by:		Name <i>Name</i>	Title <i>Title</i>



Appendices

Appendix A

Dry Needling Education Programs (approved July 26, 2023)

- Acupuncture Canada Certification in Dry Needling
 - The Dry Needling Program – Level I
 - The Dry Needling Program – Level II
- Acupuncture Canada Certification (ACC) Level 1
- Acupuncture: The Art and the Science (Manitoba) – A Comprehensive Introduction to Acupuncture: The Art and The Science
- Evidence in Motion: Functional Dry Needling Weekend Intensives (three days each)
 - Functional Dry Needling Level 1
 - Dry Needling: Clinical Integration
 - Functional Dry Needling Level 2

(Effective date: August 1, 2023)
- Foundations Health Education – Modern Dry Needling ANIMS (formerly ANIMS-1)
- McMaster University – Contemporary Medical Acupuncture
- On Point Physiotherapy: On Point Needling – Comprehensive Dry Needling
(Effective date: August 1, 2023)
- OPPQ Puncture Physiothérapique avec Aiguilles Sèches : Cours de Base
(Effective date: December 21, 2022)
- Smart Seminars Certification in Biomedical Dry Needling
- UBC Gunn IMS Certification Course
- Uplands Physiotherapy Clinic: Dry Needling Canada
 - Level 1 – Extremities
 - Level 2 – Spine