



# Infection Control

## Applies to Physical Therapists

The College of Health and Care Professionals of BC was created on June 28, 2024 through the amalgamation of seven health regulatory colleges:

- College of Dietitians of British Columbia
- College of Occupational Therapists of British Columbia
- College of Optometrists of British Columbia
- College of Opticians of British Columbia
- College of Physical Therapists of British Columbia
- College of Psychologists of British Columbia
- College of Speech and Hearing Health Professionals of British Columbia

All current requirements for standards of clinical and ethical practice issued by the seven colleges remain in place upon amalgamation.

This document was created by the College of Physical Therapists of British Columbia and will be updated to reflect the amalgamation.

# Infection Control



**CPTBC**

College of Physical Therapists  
of British Columbia

## STANDARD

The physical therapist complies with current infection prevention and control best practices to support the health and safety of clients, healthcare providers, themselves, and others.

## EXPECTED OUTCOME

Clients can expect that the measures in place for infection prevention and control during the provision of physical therapy services comply with applicable legislation, regulatory requirements, standards, guidelines, and best practices.

## PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

The physical therapist:

1. Acquires education, training, and proficiency regarding best practices of infection prevention and control relevant to their practice.
2. Applies infection prevention and control techniques and current best practices relevant to their physical therapy practice consistently and effectively. This includes but is not limited to:
  - 2.1 completing effective hand hygiene before and after each client interaction;
  - 2.2 practicing effective respiratory hygiene;
  - 2.3 conducting a point of care risk assessment for each client interaction;
  - 2.4 employing the personal protective equipment indicated by the point of care risk assessment.
3. Ensures all physical therapy spaces and equipment are cleaned and disinfected prior to client use.
4. Disposes of devices and materials according to best practices and established protocols.
5. Follows manufacturer's specifications, relevant legislation, and Ministry of Health and Health Canada standards and policies for the use, cleaning, disinfection and reprocessing of equipment and devices.
6. Maintains a written record documenting the details, including parameters, of reprocessing and sterilization procedures used for reusable critical and semi-critical medical equipment.
7. Is aware of and fulfills their legislated responsibilities regarding worksite safety, in accordance with occupational health and safety legislation.

## RELATED STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

- Assessment, Diagnosis, Treatment
- Risk Management and Safety