



College of

**HEALTH AND CARE
PROFESSIONALS OF BC**

INTRAPELVIC HEALTH

Certification Program

The *Health Professions and Occupations Act's* **Health and Care Professionals Regulation** authorizes certified physical therapists to insert an instrument, device, hand or finger beyond the labia majora or anal verge for the purpose of assessing or treating the pelvic floor.

CHCPBC acknowledges that the full breadth of intrapelvic health cannot be addressed within one certification program. The following course requirement informs the minimum knowledge and skills needed for providing intrapelvic health ethically, competently, and safely.

A Full licensee in good standing may apply to be certified to perform this restricted activity if they successfully complete the following requirements within a period of 3 years or less.

Licensees who require longer than 3 years to complete certification program requirements may request an extension by emailing certification@chcpbc.org. Extension requests are reviewed and approved by the Licence Committee.

Course requirements

The College of Health and Care Professionals of BC does not approve, endorse, or accredit courses for intrapelvic health. It is the physical therapist's responsibility to reflect on their individual learning needs, the needs of the patient population they serve, and the content of available courses when selecting continuing education.

- **Course content for certification:** A minimum of 30 course hours offered by a private organization or a university on assessment and treatment of intrapelvic health. Course hours exclude time needed for theoretical and practical evaluations of competence and safety.
- **Evaluated practice:** The course must include an evaluation of the theory and practical components for assessment and treatment of intrapelvic health.
In absence of an evaluated practical component, an equivalent supervised practical component may be completed after successful completion of the course.

Proof of successful course and evaluated practice completion are required to apply.



Please refer to the [Competency Framework for Intrapelvic Health](#) for detailed learning objectives and competencies that inform minimum expectations for assessment and treatment of common pelvic floor disorders:

- Urinary disorders
- Intrapelvic pain
- Gastrointestinal and anorectal disorders
- Pelvic prolapse and pessaries
- Pediatric pelvic health
- Pelvic neurological disorders, and
- Other intrapelvic health concerns (e.g., frailty syndrome, mutilation, transgender care, cancer, etc.)

Mentorship

Licensees who are newly certified to practise intrapelvic health are strongly recommended to seek mentorship with an experienced physical therapist or other authorized health professional soon after obtaining the authorization to practice intrapelvic health from CHCPBC.

Mentorship is based on a supportive relationship between an experienced healthcare professional and a less experienced one. It is collaborative and includes reciprocal learning and long-term professional development. Common learning approaches include observation of experienced clinicians, case-based discussions, reflective practice, and peer consultation, and are supportive of ethical, competent, and safe practice.

References

[CHCPBC Certified Practices web page](#)

[CHCPBC Bylaws, section 7](#)

[CHCPBC Ethics and Practice Standards](#)

[Profile of Essential Competencies for Physical therapists in Canada](#)