

Policy P-050
Registration Committee
Approved by Council: December 3, 2010
*this policy replaces the former policy entitled
“Student Field Placement Temporary Policy”

Note to Readers: In the event of any inconsistency between this document and the legislation that affects chiropractic practice, the legislation governs.

Intent

To clarify for members CCO’s interpretation of section 29(1)(b) of the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991*, which provides:

- “29(1) An act by a person is not in contravention of subsection 27(1) [the provision prohibiting the performance of controlled acts] if it is done in the course of,
- (b) fulfilling the requirements to become a member of a health profession and the act is within the scope of practice of the profession and is done under the supervision or direction or a member of the profession.”

For the purposes of this policy:

“Accredited Chiropractic Program” means a chiropractic programme accredited or recognized by the Council on Chiropractic Education

“Preceptorship Program” means a student practice placement programme of an accredited chiropractic program. A chiropractic student is required to practise under the supervision or direction of a member of the profession.

Chiropractic students participating in an accredited school’s preceptorship program will be considered to be “fulfilling the requirements” of becoming a chiropractor for the purposes of section 29(1) and 30(5) of the *RHPA* if they are enrolled in an accredited chiropractic program.

Description of Policy

1. Chiropractic students participating in an accredited school’s preceptorship program will be considered to be “fulfilling the requirements” of becoming a chiropractor for the purposes of section 29(1) and 30(5) of the *RHPA* if they are enrolled in an accredited chiropractic program.
2. A member may participate in a preceptorship program of an accredited chiropractic program by providing supervision or direction of a student performing a controlled act, provided the member:

- holds a General (ie. active) certificate of registration
 - is in good standing with CCO
 - is a qualified participant in a preceptorship program of an accredited chiropractic program
 - has appropriate malpractice protection which provides coverage for controlled acts performed by students
3. For the purposes of section 29(1) and 30(5) of the *RHPA*, the supervision or direction of a student participating in the preceptorship program requires that the supervising chiropractor be present on the premises and available for consultation at all times during the student's performance of patient-related activities.
 4. The supervision and direction of the student must comply with the standards adopted by the accredited chiropractic program with regard to the preceptorship placement.
 5. The member shall ensure that the student obtains consent to any examination or treatment, consistent with Standard of Practice S-013: Consent, that is:
 - fully informed
 - voluntarily given
 - related to the patient's condition and circumstances
 - not obtained through fraud or misrepresentation
 - evidenced in a written form signed by the patient or otherwise documented in the patient record
- Any record of consent shall indicate that the examination or treatment was being provided by a student under the member's supervision or direction.
6. The member shall ensure that the student complies with all CCO regulations, standard of practice, policies and guidelines.

2

Legislative Context

All activities and services performed by members must relate directly to the chiropractic scope of practice and authorized acts as set out in the *Chiropractic Act, 1991*, as follows:

Chiropractic Scope of Practice

The practice of chiropractic is the assessment of conditions related to the spine, nervous system and joints and the diagnosis, prevention and treatment, primarily by adjustment, of,

- (a) dysfunctions or disorders arising from the structures or functions of the spine and the effects of those dysfunctions or disorders on the nervous system; and
- (b) dysfunctions or disorders arising from the structures or functions of the joints.

Authorized Acts

In the course of engaging in the practice of chiropractic, a member is authorized, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his or her certificate of registration, to perform the following:

1. Communicating a diagnosis identifying, as the cause of a person's symptoms,
 - i. A disorder arising from the structures or functions of the spine and their effects on the nervous system, or
 - ii. A disorder arising from the structures or functions of the joints of the extremities.
2. Moving the joints of the spine beyond a person's usual physiological range of motion using a fast, low amplitude thrust.
3. Putting a finger beyond the anal verge for the purpose of manipulating the tail-bone.

Section 30(1) of the RHPA:

No person, other than a member treating or advising within the scope of practice of his or her profession may treat or advise a person with respect to his or her health in circumstances in which it is reasonably foreseeable that serious bodily harm may result from the treatment or advice or from omission from them.

Section 30(5)(b) of the RHPA:

Subsection (1) does not apply with respect to anything done by a person in the course of,

- (b) fulfilling the requirements to become a member of a health profession in the person is acting within the scope of practice of the profession under the supervision or direction of a member of the profession.