

COLLEGE OF PHYSICAL THERAPISTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

PRACTICE STANDARD

Number 11

Effective: September 1, 2006

Replaces: **Advisory Statement #3**

December 1996

December 1989

DRAPING FOR PATIENTS

The intent of this Clinical Practice Standard is to minimize the potential for misunderstanding that may compromise the patient or the physical therapist. Communication is of the utmost importance.

The physical therapist must:

1. Equip their practice with adequate, clean draping materials for patients. These include such articles as examination gowns, shorts or sheets.
2. Explain the purpose of requiring the patient to undress and options for draping.
3. Give the patient the opportunity to consent to undressing and/or draping.
4. Maintain the dignity of the patient at all times.
5. Drape the patient appropriately, according to the pathology and the individual patient's needs.

Additional Resources:

For information on informed consent see the *Health Care (Consent) and Care Facility (Admission) Act* at www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/H/96181_01.htm and the *Infant's Act* at www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/I/96223_01.htm.