

COLLEGE OF PHYSICAL THERAPISTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ADVISORY STATEMENT

Number 2

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INTRAPELVIC ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT

This Advisory Statement is to be read in conjunction with the Practice Standard on Intrapelvic Assessment and Treatment.

1. When a physical therapist is providing intrapelvic assessment and treatment, communication and accurate documentation are important to minimize the potential for misunderstanding that may compromise the patient or the physical therapist.
2. Where a history of abuse has been disclosed by the patient it should be established whether the patient feels able to ask the physical therapist to stop the assessment and/or treatment.
3. The physical therapist may, with patient consent, request that a third party be present during intrapelvic assessment and treatment.
4. The College strongly recommends that a third party be present if the physiotherapist has concerns regarding the patient's level of understanding or psychological well-being. Understanding may be affected by mental disability or excessive anxiety, for example.
5. If the physical therapist has any concerns regarding patient interactions they should consider whether or not to proceed with intrapelvic assessment and treatment.

For a list of additional resources see the Practice Standard on Intrapelvic Assessment and Treatment.