

**CPTBC**College of Physical Therapists
of British Columbia

BC's Restart Plan – Phase 2 Guidance

Dear Registrants:

As Premier Horgan has announced, next week is the start of the transition to Phase 2 of the government's COVID-19 response. This includes the expansion of community-based healthcare services, such as physical therapy, under enhanced protocols.

Thank you for your patience as we awaited further direction from the Provincial Health Officer. That direction has arrived, and we are pleased to share it with you here, together with specific guidance and protocols to help prevent the transmission of COVID-19 when providing physical therapy in the community.

COVID-19: Important Update from the Provincial Health Officer (May 15, 2020)

In this letter to healthcare professionals, Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry discusses the easing of restrictions on health care services beginning the week of May 19. She highlights the accountability of health professionals to ensure the health and safety of patients, colleagues, and support staff in every healthcare setting.

[Read Dr. Henry's letter here](#)

Transitioning to Phase 2 of the COVID-19 Response Plan (May 15, 2020)

[This guidance document](#) reflects guidance developed collaboratively by BC Health Regulators, the Provincial Health Officer, Ministry of Health, and WorkSafe BC. Links for health care professionals, including physical therapists, are embedded in the document.

The College expects registrants to read the guidance document and follow the expectations within it as you resume the provision of physical therapy services. It replaces the College's previous guidance and expectations published prior to May 15, 2020 although elements such as providing virtual care, as possible, continue to apply.

Additional Resources for Health Professionals

The following agencies have provided specific information about COVID-19:

- [BC Centre for Disease Control](#)
- [Provincial Infection Control Network \(PICNet\)](#)
- Ministry of Health and the [Office of the Public Health Officer](#)
- [WorkSafeBC](#)
- [BC's Restart Plan](#)

Please note that the material provided by these agencies is updated regularly as new information becomes available. Some guidance, specifically regarding PPE, may not be updated to reflect Phase 2 requirements, and registrants should check the sites again the week of May 19.

A Careful Restart

As health professionals prepare to resume in-person care, it is critical to remember that May 19 is the beginning of a transition. This is intended to be a careful restart in keeping with the requirements of our "new normal." The College acknowledges and thanks all registrants for making practice accommodations to ensure patients receive safe and timely care during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dianne Millette,
Registrar and CEO
College of Physical Therapists of BC

