Physiotherapy

What is Physiotherapy?

Physical Therapy is a primary care, autonomous, self-regulated, client-focused health profession dedicated to:

- Improving and maintaining functional independence and physical performance
- Preventing and managing pain, physical impairments, disabilities and limits to participation
- Promoting fitness, health and wellness

What do Physiotherapists do?

Physiotherapists provide assessment, treatment and education for a wide range of health problems to ensure clients make the most of their lifestyles. They recommend the best way to treat problems with muscles, bones and joints, circulatory, respiratory or nervous systems Physiotherapists also advise clients on ways to prevent potential health problems from occurring before they arise.

Where do Physiotherapists work?

Physiotherapists work in a variety of settings, depending on the focus of services:

- Rehabilitation Centres
- Hospitals
- Private Out- patient Clinics
- OHIP Out-patient Clinics
- Home care

Education and Preparation

Physical therapy students currently require a 4-year BSc degree prior to registration in a Masters Entry-Level Program. The 2-year program incorporates 6 terms of academic coursework as well as 1160 hours of clinical experience. Upon completion of the MPT program, applicants must successfully complete both the written and practical components of the Canadian Physical Therapy National Examination to be licensed to practice. A provincial Jurisprudence Education Program must also be successfully completed prior to registration with a provincial regulatory college.

Licensure

In Ontario, practicing Physical Therapists must be registered with the College of Physiotherapists of Ontario (CPO). The CPO is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to regulating the practice of Physical Therapists in the public interest.

Professional Associations

College of Physiotherapists of Ontario

www.cpo.on.ca

Canadian Physiotherapy Association

www.physiotherapy.ca

Ontario Physiotherapy Association

www.opa.on.ca