

Prompt Questions:

Scope of Physiotherapy Practice

(June 2014)

This document has been produced to accompany the scope of practice resources provided on the CSP website: www.csp.org.uk/scope . It enables you to print a copy of the prompt questions to carry with you for easy reference and to work through when convenient. This will enable you to decide whether:

- a new proposed area of practice is within the scope of the profession
- an area of practice is within your personal scope of practice
- you need to contact the Professional Advice Service (PAS) for further advice.

The scope of physiotherapy practice prompt questions are in three sections:

- A. The scope of the physiotherapy profession
- B. Recognition of the area of practice by peers
- C. Support from available or emerging evidence

We recommend that you read the full information on the website before using this download.

If you need to contact the Professional Advice Service for further advice, you can send also the completed document as an attachment, for information.

Prompt Questions

A: The scope of the physiotherapy profession

Does the area relate to principles and application of physiotherapy?

A.1: Does the area fit within one of the four pillars of physiotherapy as defined by the CSP Royal Charter: massage, exercise, electrotherapy, or kindred (related or linked) forms of treatment?

A.2: Does your job description or contract require you to be registered with the Health and Care Professions Council as a physiotherapist?

A.3: Would the area of practice support the basic aims of physiotherapy; enabling individuals or populations to move, perform and function, maximising quality of life and/or promoting and protecting health and wellbeing?

A.4: Would you retain responsibility, accountability and autonomy for the care you deliver if practising in the area?

A.5: Would this area of practice use your assessment, diagnostic, clinical-reasoning and judgment skills?

A.6: Would this area of practice take into account individual and/or population needs?

B: Recognition of the area of practice by peers

Have you sought feedback on whether the new area falls within the scope of physiotherapy in the UK?

B.1: Do peers within physiotherapy or other professions, with acknowledged and relevant expertise, support this area of practice?

B.2: Has there been mixed feedback regarding the appropriateness of the area's inclusion in practice? If so, can you demonstrate critical engagement with these different perspectives and that you have taken sufficient account of these?

C: Support from available or emerging evidence

What kind of available or emerging evidence supports the area's inclusion in UK physiotherapy?

C.1: Can you demonstrate clear evidence to support this area of practice within a broad health context (nursing, medicine etc)?

C.2: Can you demonstrate the best available or emerging evidence to support the inclusion of this proposed area within your physiotherapy practice?

C.3: Can you demonstrate there is available or emerging evidence to positively support safety, patient centredness and effectiveness in this area?

C.4: Is there any available or emerging evidence that casts doubt on the value or credibility of the area in meeting patient/population needs?

C.5: Is there any evidence that actively challenges safety, efficacy or effectiveness in this area?