

# Consultation webinar: Draft Practice Guideline- Working Outside of Scope during Health Emergencies

Brenda Kritzer, Registrar and CEO

Lara Thacker, Director, Quality Assurance

**July 29, 2020**

# Today's webinar

- Background
- Guideline purpose
- Highlights of key action statements
- Discussion

# Background

- In a health emergency, the government has the authority to make legislative orders directing the activities of regulated health professionals.
- These orders can give employers such as hospitals and long-term care homes the authority to identify staff priorities and develop, modify and implement redeployment plans.

# Guideline purpose

- The context for this guideline is a health emergency such as a pandemic.
- Kinesiologists may be asked by an employer to work outside the scope of practice for kinesiology or be redeployed to another practice setting, which presents challenges.
- Guideline provides considerations for working outside of scope during a health emergency, and explains why such a situation may arise.
- Addresses assigned tasks that are within the public domain but outside of the scope of practice of kinesiology.

# Consideration #1:

## Assessing risk and ensuring proper training

- Before beginning an activity that is outside of scope, kinesiologists must assess risks and ensure they receive the required training.
- While performing tasks, kinesiologists continuously assess their competence with co-workers and supervisors, and identify additional required training.
- Guideline provides considerations to determine if a kinesiologist is meeting these expectations.

# Consideration #1: Consultation questions

- Are these expectations clear? Is there anything missing?
- Are these expectations realistic during a health emergency? If not, how should these expectations be demonstrated by R.Kins?
- Are these expectations patient/client-centred? Do they help reduce risk of harm to patients/clients?

## Consideration #2:

### Critical thinking, decision-making and consultation

- Kinesiologists must exercise critical thinking and decision-making skills by:
  - Considering the patient's/client's best interests;
  - Synthesizing and analyzing information to inform care, and integrating relevant information with previous learning, experience, professional knowledge and current practice methods; and
  - Taking appropriate measures if patient/client health is unstable and requires assessment and/or supervision by another health professional.

## Consideration #2: Consultation questions

- Are these expectations clear? Is there anything missing?
- Are these expectations realistic during a health emergency? If not, how should these expectations be demonstrated by R.Kins?
- Are these expectations patient/client-centred? Do they help reduce risk of harm to patients/clients?

## Consideration #3:

### Consent and use of professional designation

- Kinesiologists must obtain informed consent from the patient before performing any task.
- The kinesiologist should inform the patient that they are a registered kinesiologist, describe their role and responsibilities and the services to be provided, and advise the patient that the procedure has been assigned by another health professional or the supervising practitioner.
- If there are doubts about the patient's capacity, the supervising practitioner would determine whether the patient is capable of providing informed consent, and identify and consult with the patient's substitute decision-maker (SDM).

## Consideration #3: Consultation questions

- Are these expectations clear? Is there anything missing?
- Are these expectations realistic during a health emergency? If not, how should these expectations be demonstrated by R.Kins?
- Are these expectations patient/client-centred? Do they help reduce risk of harm to patients/clients?

# Consideration #4: Record keeping

- Kinesiologists must keep a record of:
  - Tasks assigned to them, when they were assigned and by whom;
  - Acceptance of the tasks; and
  - Specific details of the assignment (e.g. instructions, accountabilities, etc.).
- Kinesiologists are required to maintain record keeping practices in accordance with the organization's documentation protocol. If unfamiliar with the preferred documentation processes, kinesiologists should consult their supervisor.
- Where the kinesiologist does not have access to the patient record, and if there is doubt about whether informed consent has been obtained or a patient is resistant, the kinesiologist should report this information to the health professional or supervising practitioner in charge and maintain their own separate notes of the situation. Kinesiologists would be required to demonstrate clinical reasoning that informed their decision-making in the event of a complaint.

## Consideration #4: Consultation questions

- Are these expectations clear? Is there anything missing?
- Are these expectations realistic during a health emergency? If not, how should these expectations be demonstrated by R.Kins?
- Are these expectations patient/client-centred? Do they help reduce risk of harm to patients/clients?

# Consideration #5: Professional liability insurance

- Regulated health professionals must be insured individually.
- Professional liability insurance policies typically only cover activities within the scope of practice of kinesiology.
- Kinesiologists should check with their supervisor/ employer in charge of the assignment to ensure that appropriate professional liability insurance is in place to cover their newly assigned tasks, roles and responsibilities.

# General discussion

- Are the intent/purpose and parameters of the guideline clear? (e.g. does not apply to controlled acts)
- Is there anything that has been left out that you would like to see added/clarified?
- Are there risks that need to be addressed specifically?
- Has this webinar been helpful in clarifying the application to practice?

# Thank you!

- Feedback due by **Monday, September 7, 2020**
- Submit written comments to [info@coko.ca](mailto:info@coko.ca) or you can complete the [online survey](#)