

SCPT Practice Guideline #19

Animal Therapy

Background

The College does not recognize the assessment, treatment, or care of animals by members to fall within the regulatory authority of the College and hours spent performing therapy on animals, are not considered acceptable clinical practice hours for licensure by the College.

The SCPT Code of Ethics provides:

17. Physical therapists shall conduct themselves in such a manner as to merit the respect of society for the profession and its members.

Practice Guideline

1. It is the responsibility of the member to inform the client that “animal therapy” is not regulated by the SCPT and any complaints would be beyond the jurisdiction of the College.
2. Members practising “animal therapy” should not use the names or terms, “Physical Therapist”, “Physiotherapist”, “Physical Therapy”, or “Physiotherapy” when describing any such practice.