

**POSITION PAPER
OF THE ORDRE DES PHYSIOTHÉRAPEUTES DU QUÉBEC**

The Practice of Osteopathy by Physiotherapists

The Ordre des physiothérapeutes du Québec:

- considers the practice of osteopathy by its members as multi-option training, acceptable provided it falls within the scope of professional practice by a physiotherapist who uses a number of manual techniques to develop, maintain, restore or increase a person's physical functional capacity.
- recommends that members wishing to practise osteopathy enrol in a study program that meets the criteria and objectives stipulated in section 2 of the reference document.

This position paper is aimed at:

guiding physiotherapists who use approaches and techniques acquired through multi-option training programs, that is, training provided by an educational program neither accredited by the Québec Department of Education nor overseen by official physiotherapy organizations.

Physiotherapists must:

➤ **at all times be able to justify their professional decisions**

- Physiotherapists must ensure that their assessments and treatments in physiotherapy are related to the problems identified, while taking account of the fact that any pathology of a visceral structure is not part of the physiotherapist's professional field of expertise.

➤ **inform clients**

- It is essential to fully inform clients or their representatives in terms adapted to the clients' level of understanding, so that the latter's consent is both free and informed (reference document: section 3.2 and Appendix 1).

In the practice of their profession, physiotherapists must identify themselves to clients as physiotherapists only, unless they are members of another professional order (reference document: section 4.3).

➤ **respect the *Professional Code* and the regulations of the *Ordre des physiothérapeutes du Québec***

- Physiotherapists are obliged to respect the *Professional Code* (reference document: Appendix 2).
- Physiotherapists are obliged to respect their *Code of Ethics* (reference document: Appendix 2).
- Physiotherapists must respect the Regulation respecting the keeping of records and consulting rooms (reference document: Appendix 2).