

CPTNB RULES

Title and Credentials ■ Rule 2.0

2.0 Title and Credentials

Part 1 TITLE

1. A member of the College who is entitled to engage in the practice of physiotherapy shall use the restricted title “Physiotherapist” or “Physical Therapist” and may use such titles in association with the restricted designation “PT”.

2. Members, when engaging in physiotherapy practice, must use their restricted title associated with the certificate of registration they hold ⁽¹⁾.

3. Members must ensure that the restricted title or abbreviation directly follows their name.

Examples:

Mary Brown, Physiotherapist
John Smith, PT

4. Those entitled to use the restricted designations may use English and French concurrently as well as equivalent terms in other languages.

Examples:

Physiotherapist/physiothérapeute or Physiothérapeute/Physiotherapist

OR

PT/pht or Pht/PT

5. Materials used by members must be compliant with this rule.

Examples:

All electronic, printed and social media materials and references, signs, name tags, business cards, charts, letters and reports, e-mails, internet addresses, etc.

6. Members may also use specialty designations recognized by the College. ⁽²⁾

7. Members may only use the title “Doctor” or its abbreviation, as associated with a completed doctoral degree, when used in non-clinical settings.

8. Members are encouraged to refrain from the use of all slang or abbreviated terms such as “physio” or “therapist” by itself.

⁽¹⁾ Example:

Mary Brown, PT - Provisional
MScPT

⁽²⁾ See CPTNB Regulations and requirements regarding the recognition of some specialty designations.

Part 2 CREDENTIALS and SPECIALTY DESIGNATIONS

9. If being used, credentials must only occur in conjunction with, and after the use of the restricted title and approved specialty designation, in the follow lines.

EXAMPLES – CORRECT USE

Mary Brown, Physiotherapist
BSc Physiotherapy

John Smith, PT
MScPT

EXAMPLES – INCORRECT USE

Mary Brown, Physiotherapist, ~~BScPT~~
Mary Brown, ~~BScPT~~,
Physiotherapist

John Smith, PT, ~~MScPT~~
John Smith, ~~MScPT~~
~~PT~~

NOTE: Abbreviations related to degrees from universities should be cited as officially sanctioned by the originating school. It is not within the authority of CPTNB to determine them but PTs are expected to be accurate in their information to the public.

10. A registrant granted permission to use the title “specialist” will use the restricted title first (i.e. physiotherapist/ physical therapist or PT) followed by the approved specialty designation.

EXAMPLE: Mary Brown, PT, Specialist, Paediatrics

11. Credentials must be presented accurately, honestly and in accordance with any legal restrictions.

Part 3 APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTIONS

12. Members may apply to the Registrar or Council for exemptions to the correct use of title and credentials.

13. Requests for exemptions must be in writing, and submitted only by registered members of the CPTNB.

14. Exemption applications will be documented so as to build a precedent case file.

15. Reasonable discretion will be used when applying the Rule, to include the consideration of hardship and special circumstances. (See examples).

Special circumstances *may* include:

1. Quantities of printed materials do not have to be replaced if some are available after the approved compliance deadline, but it would be reasonably expected that they be revised accordingly, in the next and future, quantities or versions.
2. Non-compliant permanent or commercial signage, etc. would not need to be replaced but members would be encouraged to have other evidence or materials showing correct usage, and if replacements were made voluntarily, they would be reasonably expected to be compliant.
3. Errors or oversights incurred in paid advertising which are discovered beyond the confirmation date for same. CPTNB would reasonably expect the member to correct them in advance of the next issuance of the publicity.

■

Approved: October, 2012/Revised: June, 2015