



COLLEGE OF CHIROPODISTS OF ONTARIO

Regulating Chiropodists and Podiatrists in Ontario

July 28, 2020

Dear Member,

Enclosed you will find the revised Prescription Custom Foot Orthoses (PCFO) Standard of Practice (“Standard”).

The updated document now contains an Index and a streamlined layout improving the flow of information. We have expanded on the definitions and have added explanatory notes where indicated.

As well, please note the specific clarifications to casting position details, and to the requirements with respect to the prescribing and dispensing of PCFOs.

As set out in this Standard, it is the responsibility of a member to comply with all aspects to ensure the continuity of care for the patient and that **a member who prescribes a PCFO is also responsible for dispensing that PCFO to the patient**

Furthermore, the prescribing member must perform and clearly document the necessary assessments required for the orthotic prescription in the patient’s health record, including the following information: the need for the PCFO prescription, the therapeutic goal of the PCFO in the overall management of the specific patient, and how the efficacy of this intervention will be assessed.

Casting/scanning must be performed by the prescribing member, designated member, *or* designated trained assistant, **HOWEVER** the cast or laser scan **must** be reviewed and assessed by the prescribing member and compared against the patient’s feet to ensure accuracy on the **same day** that they were obtained and **before** the patient is discharged from the office.

The PCFOs should be dispensed by the prescribing member. However, if the prescribing member is unable to dispense the PCFOs, then another member of the College may dispense the PCFOs. The requirement is that the PCFOs **must be** dispensed by a member and it is the responsibility of the prescribing member to ensure that the CFOs are dispensed to the patient by them or another member of the College.

At least one follow up appointment with the prescribing member must be offered to the patient within a reasonable period of time after dispensing the PCFO (such as 3 to 6 weeks). This must be documented in the patient’s record

These changes were made to reflect current concepts with PCFO prescribing and casting. As well, they have been made to assist members in providing the appropriate evaluation and documentation to the patient, in accordance with the Regulations under the *Chiropody Act*, 1991.

Therefore, it is mandatory that members adhere to the regulations and standards required by the College, including this Standard, in order to protect the public

All members are encouraged to review the amended standard. We are seeking your comments and input and we would ask that you respond no later than **Friday, October 2, 2020**. Please send them to tgoldblatt@cocoo.on.ca.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Felecia Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Felecia Smith, LL.B

Barrister & Solicitor

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