

 <p>Prince Edward Island College of Physiotherapy</p> <p>STANDARDS OF PRACTICE</p>	PRACTICE STANDARD TITLE: DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING – X-Ray
	DATE CREATED: January 2023
CATEGORY: Reserved Activities	DATE APPROVED: August 22, 2024
AUTHORITY: Regulated Health Professions Act	DATE REVISED:

Definition: Diagnostic imaging including X-ray which produce images of the inside of the body for the purposes of confirming a physiotherapy diagnosis, answer an explicit clinical question, or alter or advance the client’s treatment plan.

Standard: The following are reserved activities under the Regulated Health Professions Act

- ordering the application of electrical energy in the form of ionizing radiation to conduct an X-Ray.

Those members who wish to order diagnostic imaging are required to apply for special authorization to perform these reserved activities.

Eligibility for this special authorization will include:

- Complete a minimum of 50 hours of continuing education from a course provider that is accredited.
- There must be some testing throughout the course – quizzes, tests, knowledge checks, etc.
- The course must include these key competencies:
 - Safety and red flags
 - Contradictions, risks and limitations
 - The physics of radiography and the different views
 - Use the *American College of Radiologists appropriateness guidelines*, *Canadian Association of Radiologists guidelines* and Canadian-based clinical practice guidelines.
 - Learning on forms of diagnostic imaging for the entire body
 - Specific to the musculoskeletal system

Physiotherapists authorized to order diagnostic imaging are expected to work within the competencies (knowledge, skills and abilities) for which they have been educated and trained.

Physiotherapists shall:

- MUST communicate with the client’s primary care provider the ordering of radiography and your suspected diagnosis at the time of the referral.
- MUST self-report monthly, using the Physiotherapist’s HMS portal
- Order diagnostic images for their own clients only, for the purpose of assisting in the management of their physiotherapy care.
- Comply with *Choosing Wisely Canada Recommendations* or other Canadian based clinical practice guidelines.
- Explain the rationale and risks for the diagnostic image to the client.
- Communicate the results of the diagnostic image to the client, providing the necessary follow-up when the results indicate that such follow-up is warranted, including referral of the client to an appropriate regulated health professional when needed.

- Provide emergency contact information on all imaging orders to facilitate timely communication in the event that a diagnostic image reveals an urgent concern.
- In the event that the client is unaffiliated and something of urgent concern is identified, or a finding warrants a referral to a different regulated health professional, ensure you follow the appropriate pathways established by Health PEI and the PEI government.
- Document all imaging results and all communications with the client and with other health-care providers within the circle of care regarding the imaging result.
- Not delegate ordering of diagnostic imaging to another person who does not have legal authority to perform the act.