



Massage Therapist Association of Alberta  
Standards of Practice

**Standard 44**

**Category:**     **Technique**

**Ratified:**       **September 13, 2008**

**Amended:**

**Rescinded:**

*Perform Massage to the Chest Wall*

**Conditions:**

Given that massage to structures of the chest wall has been requested or clinically indicated prior to treatment, and that the client has consented to the treatment plan.

**Clinical Indicators concerning chest wall musculature, including but not limited to:**

- post-mastectomy
- rehabilitation after cancer treatment
- chronic respiratory conditions
- relief of muscular discomfort and/or pain
- supportive treatment of postural rebalancing
- scarring of the tissue of the chest wall

**Task:**

Provide treatment to structures of the chest wall.

**Standard:**

**Quality / Technical**

- So that the chest/breast is uncovered only with the prior and voluntary consent of the client (notwithstanding clause in Communication / Public Health Standard applies).

**Safety**

- So that structures of the chest wall are not treated or that treatment is modified if contraindications to treatment of this area exist.