



POSITION STATEMENT

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Position

Conflicts arise when/if Massage Therapists have a relationship or interest that could be seen as unduly influencing their professional judgment or ability to act in the patient's best interest. Massage Therapists must avoid all situations and circumstances that may result in a real, potential or perceived conflict of interest.

Guidelines

Massage Therapists demonstrate this by:

1. Not participating in any activity in which professional judgment could be compromised or is for the sole purpose of personal gain.
2. Disclosing to patients and documenting in patient records the purchase of products/services in which the Massage Therapist or related person has a financial interest in the vendor.
3. Not entering into agreements in which they or a related person receives a benefit related to: the volume of service provided, number or type of referrals made or received, services delivered, or the sale of products offered within the practice.
4. Refraining from providing Massage Therapy services to a related person unless:
 - another Massage Therapy provider is not available;
 - no fee is charged; and
 - the relationship is disclosed to payers' and any others receiving information or reports pertaining to the related person when the information provided is relied upon for health care, administrative or legal decisions or actions involving the related person.
5. Ensuring the formal processing and documentation of all Massage Therapy services provided to related persons when a fee is collected.
6. Disclosing information about any activity or arrangement that may constitute a conflict of interest for themselves or a related person.

The Massage Therapist Association of Alberta leads the practice of its members in Alberta. Contact us for more information on this or other position statements.