

## A CPS-BC Alert to Registrants August 02, 2017

## **DELEGATION OF ORTHOTICS - RELATED TASKS**

The Board issues the following notice regarding limitations on the delegation of certain in-clinic orthotics-related tasks.

At their July 29, 2017 meeting, the CPS-BC Board passed a motion with the following immediate effect:

Delegation of in-office casting or scanning of the foot, assessment of the casting or scanning, and assessment of the efficacy of the resulting orthotics are not delegable tasks.

This is not a new rule: rather it is an enunciation or codification of a principle that already exists.

The College's current Orthotics policy (which accompanies this notice) does not yet have express wording setting out this limitation. However, not all standards of practice including ethical rules are set down in writing. On any issue registrants are expected to know and meet the standard of a competent and ethical practitioner.

With respect to this issue, it is axiomatic that many diagnostic investigation tasks, assessment of diagnostic results, issuance of a prescription, and assessment of treatment efficacy, cannot be delegated to untrained or unregulated staff.

The Board has decided that is prudent to now codify this particular principle on the basis of reports of delegation of tasks to untrained staff.

The current policy is under review for additional issues, and in due course a revised consolidated policy will be issued.

> **College of Podiatric Surgeons of British Columbia** 101-850 Harbourside Drive, North Vancouver, B.C. V7P 0A3 Tel: 604-986-0403 Fax at 604-986-0399

Email: registrar@collegepodsbc.org or admin@collegepodsbc.org

