

Reserved Activities in Physiotherapy

INTRODUCING AN INSTRUMENT IN THE HUMAN BODY IN AND BEYOND THE PHARYNX OR THE NASAL VESTIBULE¹

This reserved activity allows physiotherapists to insert a suction catheter into a natural orifice such as the pharynx or nasal vestibule down to the trachea to perform an aspiration technique.

This activity is generally performed on patients with a cardiopulmonary disorder and a buildup of secretions that needs to be suctioned, for example following thoracic percussion or postural drainage.

PLEASE NOTE!

Certain treatment methods for clearing the airways can be performed by a physical rehabilitation therapist because they are not included in this reserved activity. This is the case for techniques such as postural drainage, vibration, and thoracic percussion) as well as suctioning secretions in the mouth cavity.

AUTHORIZED MEMBERS

Physiotherapists

CERTIFICATION

No OPPQ training certificate is required to perform this reserved activity.

COMPLEMENTARY

Physiotherapists are also authorized, by prescription, to introduce a suction catheter in an artificial orifice such as a tracheotomy, to perform an aspiration technique.²

SHARED

This activity is not reserved exclusively to physiotherapists. It is shared among a certain number of healthcare professionals. For example, physicians, nurses, medical technologists, and respiratory therapists can also perform this activity, subject to the aims described in their respective scopes of practice.

¹ Section 37.1 Subsection 3 d) of the *Professional Code*.

² Sections 1 and 4 of the *Regulation respecting the professional activities that may be engaged in by members of the Ordre professionnel de la physiothérapie du Québec*.