

TO: Jason Leitch - National Clinical Director
Scottish Government



By email

Cc Fiona McQueen (CNO) Carolyn McDonald (CAHPO)

Dear Jason

Resuming Massage, Sports Therapy and Physiotherapy

The CSP has noted media reports that massage and sports therapy may now resume in Scotland, and before restrictions are lifted in England.

The Scottish Government's Business and Social Distancing Team is quoted in the Herald as stating: *"Professional Sports Massage, particularly for pain, can be considered a professional vocational medical service, so it would currently be permissible under the guidance...that you can re-open your business."*¹

Clearly therapeutic interventions such as massage and sports therapy are also practiced by physiotherapists. However, CSP members, as regulated healthcare professionals, have been following the advice of Health Protection Scotland, which continues to require full PPE, and limiting access for patients.

There is therefore some confusion in the independent health sector over the advice and regulations as they apply to therapies such as massage and sports therapy and the difference to the advice and guidance governing regulated as compared to non-regulated health care practitioners. The CSP continues to advise members based on the guidance from the Scottish Government, Health Protection Scotland and the HCPC. We would appreciate clarity on this matter.

Kind regards

Sara

Sara Conroy
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¹ <https://www.heraldsotland.com/news/18560681.sports-massage-therapists-given-go-ahead-work-ahead-england/?ref=fbshr&fbclid=IwAR3l06nCWEb2UbNrK9yASSUIXaBtTwmNDiUyQjKE8oknYU6UAltX2gMsOWc>