

PEADIATRIC SUPPLEMENT OF CODE No: C0044

COMPLEMENTARY THERAPIES

STATEMENT ON THE USE OF MASSAGE THERAPIES IN PAEDIATRIC AND NEONATAL SERVICES

The purpose of this position statement for specific complementary therapies is not to limit either practice or patient choice, but to ensure that professional standards and high quality service are maintained in Paediatric and Neonatal Services.

INTRODUCTION

Brighton & Sussex Universities Hospitals NHS Trust have recognised Complementary Therapies in the Policy and Procedures (PAPER Group) as Code No. C0044 and allow practitioners with a certain qualification to practice Complementary Therapies.

This is the first Paediatric Supplement to include **Massage Therapies** as part of Complementary Therapies for **Paediatric and Neonatal Practice**.

1. WHO MAY PRACTISE

All professionals who wish to practice Massage Therapies in Paediatrics must hold a nationally recognised Complementary Therapy qualification and maintain current membership of the relevant professional body:

- 1.1 GCTC- General Council for Massage Therapy (inaugurated 25 April 2002), which includes:

MTIGB: The Massage Therapy Institute of Great Britain
FSMT: The Fellowship of Sports Masseurs and Therapists
BCP: The Guild of Complementary Practitioners
ITEC: International Therapy Examination Council
MTI: The Massage Training Institute
SMTO: The Scottish Massage Therapists Organisations.

- 1.2 All Massage Practitioners working within Brighton & Sussex Universities Hospitals NHS Trust must have their names registered on the Trust-wide database (held and maintained by the personnel department). If appropriate an honorary contract will be issued.
- 1.3 The practitioner can provide proof of on-going professional development and competence in the form of a professional profile, portfolio or similar record.

2. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

- 2.2 If a clinical area wishes to provide Massage Therapies then the following actions must be taken:
- 2.3 A defined protocol of service must be available and kept up to date by the Lead Consultant for Complementary Therapies Working Group at the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Sick Children.

3. ACCOUNTABILITY

- 3.1 All therapists will require a police check according to Trust Personnel policies.
- 3.2 The therapist must remain accountable to the registered medical practitioner responsible for the patient's care.
- 3.3 The therapist is accountable for their own practice, as defined by their own professional body (see section 1.1)
- 3.4 The registered medical Consultant responsible for the patient's care must provide either general consent or structured approval from the parent, carer and/or patient for the use of the Massage Therapy and will document this in the patients file.
- 3.5 Each patient must be referred directly to the Massage Therapist via a designated member of the clinical team through a recognised and resourced route: i.e. a formal referral form which is placed at the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Sick Children.
- 3.2 The practitioner must not raise the possibility of private treatment unless information is specifically requested by the patient or the carer.
- 3.5 Records remain the property of the NHS and are strictly confidential. Information is not to be disclosed to any unauthorised person.
- 3.5 The Trust will need to satisfy itself that the individual concerned is adequately insured in the event of any claim ensuing from his/her negligent acts or omissions.

4 CONSENT

- 4.1 Individual practitioners need to ensure that informed consent is obtained in line with their professional code of conduct. It is the responsibility of the practitioner to ensure that all other health professionals are aware the patient is receiving treatment.

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