Website Changes, Privacy Breaches, QA Feedback & More

What's Changed Online?

Our website has a new look and we’ve made a few changes (for example, Registrants Only sign-in is now found under Login at the very top of the site). See the What's New write-up on the home page for more information. Additional changes and updates will continue to roll out and we welcome your feedback along the way. Please take a look and send your comments to communications@coto.org.

Reporting Privacy Breaches

As of June 2016, OTs working in Ontario need to be aware of new reporting obligations under the Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004 (PHIPA).

If a privacy breach occurs, the health information custodian (the person with custody and control of the records) must not only notify the affected individual at the first reasonable opportunity, but now must also notify the individual that she or he can make a complaint about the breach to the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario. Under certain circumstances, the College must also be notified.

Learn more about these important changes online under What’s New. Please contact our Practice department with any questions.

Quality Assurance (QA) Program Evaluation

The QA program is under review and we are asking for feedback on proposed changes to the mandatory tools.

Click here to complete a brief survey about revisions to the Professional Development Plan and Self-Assessment Tool.

Click here to learn more about the QA program evaluation.

Expanded Mandatory Reporting Requirements

On August 1, 2016, the government made changes to the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 that significantly expand the mandatory reporting obligations of employers, partners and associates of regulated health professionals, as well as facilities offering privileges to them.

As a result of these changes, facilities offering you privileges, your employers, managers, partners and associates (any person in any kind of a business relationship with you except for clients/patients) are all required to report to College:

i. when there is a termination of the relationship with you, or a revoking, suspension or imposition of restrictions on the privileges offered to you, due to your incompetence, professional misconduct or incapacity; or,
ii. if you resign, or voluntarily relinquish or restrict your privileges or practice, and it is suspected that your resignation, relinquishment or restriction is related to professional misconduct, incompetence or incapacity, or it takes place during the course of, or as a result of, an investigation into allegations of professional misconduct, incompetence or incapacity made against you.

Learn more about mandatory reporting requirements.

Is your information current? Login now to find out!

Did you know that you are required to update the College about changes to certain information within 30 days of a change?

Updates are required throughout the year and not only at renewal. Not updating your information in a timely way may be considered professional misconduct.

What do you need to update? See the list here.

Professional Liability Insurance

Don't forget to purchase professional liability insurance and update the policy information by logging in to your profile at www.coto.org.

Professional liability insurance protects you and your clients. All OTs, regardless of area of practice or practice status, must have professional liability insurance that meets the College's requirements, which include:

- a liability limit of at least $5 million per incident with no deductible, and
- a sexual abuse therapy and counseling fund endorsement.

For full details about the requirements, please refer to Part 20 of the College bylaws. Contact Brandi Park, Manager, Registration with any questions.

Strategic Planning Update

Thanks to all OTs who took the time to provide feedback to inform our strategic planning. More than 800 responses came in and we are grateful for every single one! Stay tuned for further updates and outcomes.

PLEASE DO NOT UNSUBSCRIBE IF YOU ARE A REGISTRANT OF THE COLLEGE.

If registrants unsubscribe, they will be contacted to re-subscribe. The College communicates to OTs by email regarding changes to standards, mandatory registration requirements, public consultations and more. We strive to keep communication relevant and to a minimum.