

November 20, 2018

Academy of Naturopaths and Naturotherapists of Canada
140-1029 des Escoumins
Terrebonne, QC J6W 5H2

Dear Mr. Loignon,

Subject: Foot care and new La Capitale guidelines

La Capitale has always made it a priority to offer outstanding service and, within the scope of its activities in contract management, periodically revises its business rules by taking into account guidelines issued by various professional orders operating in Quebec.

In this context, following several discussions between La Capitale, the *Ordre des podiatres du Québec* (OPQ) and the *Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec* (OIIQ), La Capitale has established the following guidelines with regard to foot care:

In accordance with sections 7 and 8 of the Podiatry Act, only members with the reserved title of podiatrist have the exclusive right to practise the treatment of any foot disorder that is not a systemic disease, including:

- General foot care
- Preventive and hygienic measures
- Treatment for nerve and circulatory problems
- Establishing the existence of a pathology (diagnosis)
- Establishing a treatment plan

In accordance with section 36 of the Nurses Act, only members with the reserved title of nurse have the exclusive right to practise the treatment of:

- General treatment of feet
- Preventive and hygienic measures
- Treatment for nerve and circulatory problems

As established with these professional associations, general foot care includes:

- The debridement, partial or total removal of a nail when it leads to a local pathology
- Pain relief
- The treatment of infections (bacterial, fungal, viral)
- The temporary removal of anatomical deformities (mycosis, ingrown nail)
- The shaving, peeling or debridement of corns and calluses

In light of this information, we consider that any activity that is carried out by persons other than podiatrists or nurses will qualify as cosmetic or not medically required.

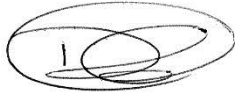
Therefore, La Capitale would like to advise you that we will no longer be reimbursing fees incurred by our participants for foot care treatment provided by any members of your association. Several measures will also be implemented to ensure compliance. These new measures will be in force on September 4.

We therefore ask you to share this information with all your members. We would like to remind you that under sections 45, 59.2 and 188 of the Professional Code, your members who offer treatment, examinations or other activities reserved for podiatrists or nurses in the province of Quebec could face significant fines. Furthermore, La Capitale reserves the right to impose administrative sanctions on offenders.

Please also kindly send us an updated list of your members, including their member or certification number and the full contact information of their place of business.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Cloutier', enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.

David Cloutier, LL.B., D.E.S.S.
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