

Comissão Parlamentar de Trabalho e Segurança Social, Assembleia da República  
Palácio de São Bento  
Lisboa - Portugal

Dear Sir/Madam

Would you please see the attachment supporting autonomy for physiotherapists.

Thank you

Brian Mulligan



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Comissão Parlamentar de Trabalho e Segurança Social, Assembleia da República  
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Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing this letter supporting the Portuguese physiotherapists application for recognition to be able to see patients without medical referral and treat them when appropriate.

In New Zealand we have had this right in law for many decades. I started up in my own practice in NZ in 1954 and could examine and treat patients. Today major health insurance companies in NZ allow their customers each year a fixed sum to cover treatment if thought appropriate by a registered physiotherapist. No medical referral is needed. If you have an accident in New Zealand everyone is covered by the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC). Physiotherapists can treat and have part of their fees paid by the ACC if the therapist on assessment considers physiotherapy is indicated after an injury. Physiotherapists in NZ can even order an X-ray.

To date I have 54 teachers from 22 different countries teaching my concepts around the world. To be a teacher you must pass a special exam and have a post graduate qualification in Manual Therapy.

In Portugal I have one teacher, Francisco Neto, who is outstanding. His clinical knowledge and handling skills are superb. He has taught for me internationally for some years now and the feedback from his courses has been excellent.

I believe he will be supporting his colleagues in their application for autonomy. Can I add that I have been teaching doctors my concepts.

Our profession is making contributions in the field of manual medicine and physiotherapists being trained today are true professionals.

Sincerely

Brian Mulligan

Founder - "Mulligan Concept Teachers Association" (MCTA)