



HONG KONG PHYSIOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION LIMITED

香港物理治療學會有限公司

中國香港特別行政區 九龍佐敦德輔道中12號興富中心9樓901室
Room 901, 9/F Rightful Centre, 12 Tak Hing Street, Jordan, Kowloon, HKSAR
www.hongkongpa.com.hk Tel: (852) 2336 0172 Fax: (852) 2338 0252

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Joint Statement between the Hong Kong Physiotherapy Association and Five Physiotherapy Education Programme Leaders in Hong Kong

RE: Response to comments made by Mr. Rick Lau on a TV Programme broadcasted on 16 Sept 2021

We would like to express our regret over the misleading comments on the physiotherapy profession made by Mr. Rick Lau (Vice-Chairman of the Chiropractic Doctors' Association of Hong Kong) in a TV Programme broadcasted on 16 Sep 2021.

The comments of Mr. Rick Lau implied that the scope of physiotherapy practice in the treatment of back pain is limited to “superficial” interventions such as stretching, strengthening exercise and muscle stimulation. Additionally, one of his comments may mislead the viewers to think that unlike chiropractors, physiotherapists may not thoroughly consider a patient's clinical history and/or bony structures, which may lead to injuries during treatments. In fact, manual therapy is one of the core subjects in physiotherapy education. Depending on patients' conditions, physiotherapists may use manual therapy and/or other methods to treat back pain. Physiotherapists are fully competent in administering appropriate assessments, exercising clinical reasoning, and delivering evidence-based interventions to optimise patients' benefits. Mr. Lau's comments regarding physiotherapy practice do not accurately reflect the truth and may reveal his insufficient understanding of the physiotherapy profession.

We do not oppose others in promoting their own profession, but it should not be done at the expense of other professions.

Jointly prepared by the Hong Kong Physiotherapy Association and the following physiotherapy programme leaders (in alphabetical order):

Dr. CHONG, Doris, BSc (Hons) in Physiotherapy, Hong Kong Metropolitan University
Prof. LEUNG, Arran, BSc (Hons) in Physiotherapy, Caritas Institute of Higher Education
Dr. NGAI, Shirley, BSc (Hons) in Physiotherapy, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Prof. SZETO, Grace, BSc (Hons) in Physiotherapy, Tung Wah College
Dr. WONG, Arnold, Master in Physiotherapy, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University



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香港物理治療學會及五位香港物理治療教育課程主任聯合聲明:

對於 2021 年 9 月 16 日晚播出某電視節目中脊醫劉柏偉先生言論的回應

對於 2021 年 9 月 16 日晚播出的某電視節目訪問中脊醫劉柏偉(香港執業脊醫協會副主席)作出對物理治療師專業行為的誤導性言論，我們深表遺憾！

劉先生在訪問中提到物理治療師治療背痛的方法流於「表面」，例如使用拉筋、強化運動與肌肉電刺激。此外，劉先生的言論可能會誤導觀眾認為物理治療師或不會「針對骨架，詳細分析結構和病人的病歷」；以致治療時有很大機會弄傷。事實上，手法治療是物理治療教育的其中一個核心學科，物理治療師會根據患者的情況，而使用手法治療和/或其他方法來治療背痛。物理治療師完全有能力進行適當的評估，運用臨床推理，並提供實證為本的治療方案，使接受治療者獲得最大的益處。劉先生就物理治療專業所作的評論並沒有準確反映事實，並顯示他可能對物理治療專業缺乏足夠的了解。

我們不反對他人推廣自己的專業，但在推廣時絕對不能貶損其他專業。

以上聲明由香港物理治療學會及五位香港物理治療教育課程主任聯合發表:

(排名以英文姓氏筆劃為序)

香港都會大學物理治療學(榮譽)理學士課程主任莊硯琦博士
明愛專上學院物理治療學(榮譽)理學士課程主任梁兆麟教授
香港理工大學物理治療學(榮譽)理學士課程主任魏佩菁博士
東華學院物理治療學(榮譽)理學士課程主任司徒佩玉教授
香港理工大學物理治療學碩士課程主任黃宇樂博士