

Unique and Shared Scope of Practice

DEFINITIONS

Conditions:

Are the set of circumstances under which a registrant may carry out an activity. This may involve requirements which stipulate the knowledge, skills, abilities and judgments necessary to perform the activity safely and competently

Entry level practice:

Is general practice which registrants can engage in once they have met the registration requirements for the profession. This may include both restricted activities in some activities and aspects of practice that are not restricted.

Limits:

Specifies what registrants are NOT permitted to do and are in the pertinent legislation for the profession or set by CSHHPBC

Scope of practice:

Refers to all professional activities that registrants are educated and authorized to perform. These activities are legislated in the Speech & Hearing Health Professionals regulation and are complemented by national competency profiles and the CSHHPBC standards, limits and conditions for each profession.

Standard:

Is a desired and achievable level of performance against which actual performance can be compared. It provides a benchmark below which performance is unacceptable

SCOPE

All Active, Temporary and Conditional Active Registrants of the College of Speech and Hearing Health Professionals of BC

STANDARD

SCOPE OF PRACTICE:

Registrants must provide care within their designated scope of practice, unless a formal delegation process is in place with another regulated health professions' regulatory college. Registrants must always be competent to carry out any activity or service they provide. The legislated scopes of practice, from the regulation for Speech & Hearing Health Professionals are as follows:

Audiology:

means the health profession in which a person provides, for the purposes of promoting and maintaining communicative, auditory and vestibular health, the services of assessment, treatment, rehabilitation and prevention of: auditory and related communication disorders and conditions; peripheral and central auditory system dysfunction and related peripheral and central vestibular system dysfunction.

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Hearing Instrument Dispensing:

means the health profession in which a person provides the services of: assessment of hearing using an audiometer, or other methods, to identify hearing loss, and recommending, selecting, preparing, altering, adapting, verifying, selling and offering to sell hearing instruments.

Speech-Language Pathology:

means the health profession in which a person provides, for the purposes of promoting and maintaining communicative health, the services of assessment, treatment, rehabilitation and prevention of: speech, language and related communication disorders and conditions, and vocal tract dysfunction, including related feeding and swallowing disorders.

As registered health professionals, registrants are entitled to use the designated professional titles for all professions that they are registered in. (Policy QA-01 Registrant Use of Reserved Titles). Registrants must ensure that any communication health assistants, under their supervision, are compliant with the Use of Titles for Communication Health Assistants.

Aspects of a professions' scope of practice may be unique to that profession and not performed from that professions perspective by any other health profession. An example of a unique aspect of scope of practice would be determining an audiology or speech-language pathology diagnosis.

Other aspects of a professions' scope of practice may be shared with other regulated health professionals. An example within CSHHPBC would be that all three professions (Audiologists, Hearing Instrument Practitioners and Speech-Language Pathologists) can screen hearing for the purpose of identifying a potential hearing problem.

Appendix A shows the inter-relationships between the scopes of practice for the three professions regulated by CSHHPBC. It is incumbent on registrants to understand what is within their scope of practice and under what, if any, conditions.

RESTRICTED ACTIVITIES:

Restricted activities prescribed in the Health Professions Act are assigned to each profession in the Speech & Hearing Health Professionals Regulation and may have limits or conditions attached to them. In several instances, the legislation and bylaws prescribe the need for an Advanced Certificate in order to perform certain activities. The CSHHPBC outlines what the conditions are to demonstrate the necessary knowledge, skills and abilities. (Advanced Practice; Programs of study for advanced certification). Other restricted activities do not have any additional conditions attached to them and are able to be performed by competent entry level registrants.

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ENTRY LEVEL PRACTICE:

Entry level practice (with or without restricted activities) carries elements of risk to clients and it is incumbent on registrants to know and mitigate those risks when practicing the profession.

Audiologists, Hearing Instrument Practitioners and Speech-Language Pathologists are independent in their practice, at the entry level and if they require advanced certification for aspects of their practice. There is no need for a registrant to receive an order from another health care professional to practice any aspect of their profession.

DELEGATION OF SERVICES:

The scope of practice for Communication Health Assistants (CHA) is a subset of the professions' scope of practice and is always under the registrant's supervision. The CSHHPBC bylaws set the limits for CHA practice and this is supplemented by the CSHHPBC standards of practice and clinical decision support tools. Registrants can delegate to CHA non-registrants in accordance with the legislation and related CSHHPBC documents.

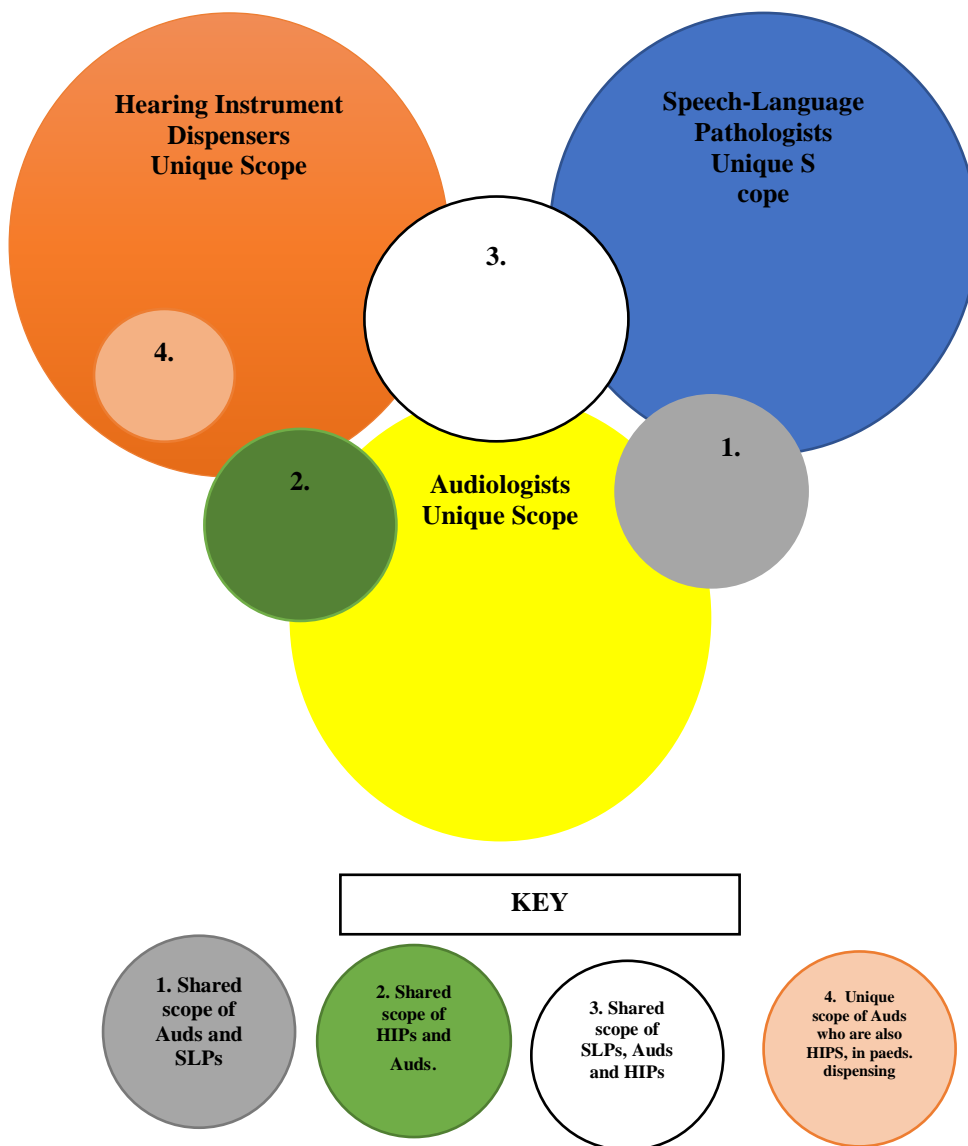
Practice that is delegated to a registrant from another health profession is considered out of scope and can only be performed if there is a formal agreement between CSHHPBC and the other regulatory college. Any such agreement would stipulate the conditions of that delegation and any aspects of shared accountability and responsibility.

AUTHORITY TO SET STANDARDS, LIMITS AND CONDITIONS:

CSHHPBC has the authority to establish develop, monitor and enhance the standards of practice, limits and conditions for registrants. This is particularly important when there are new, emerging or changing practices in each profession. Registrants must be up to date on their knowledge of CSHHPBC documents and requirements.

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Appendix A: Unique and Shared Scope of Practice for Audiologists, Hearing Instrument Practitioners and Speech-Language Pathologists



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RELATED CSHHPBC DOCUMENTS

Advanced Practice (SOP-PROF-06)

Attaining and Maintaining Practice Competence (SOP-PROF-02)

Competency profiles for Audiology, Hearing Instrument Dispensing and Speech-Language Pathology

Audiology (CAASPR, 2018) Core-02

Hearing Instrument Dispensary (CSHHPBC, 2018) Core-03

Speech – Language Pathology (CAASPR, 2018) Core-04

Inter-Professional Collaborative Practice (SOP-PROF-01)

Professional Accountability and Responsibility (SOP-PROF-05)

Use of Communication Health Assistants (SOP-PROF-04)