

Standards of Practice
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Author: Sandra Bach
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Certified DMTs in Canada will adhere to the following standards of practice:

Responsibility and Accountability
Knowledge-based Practice
Professional Relationships and Leadership
Client-Centered Practice

Responsibility and Accountability

A DMT is accountable and takes responsibility for their actions in and around the therapeutic environment and when engaging with clients, peers, allied professionals and themselves.

- a) Complaints process: DMT practitioners have a responsibility to inform clients of the complaints process managed by DMTAC and will instruct clients on accessing this process via complaints@dmnac.org
- b) Confidentiality, data protection and record keeping: DMT practitioners have a responsibility to keep client information confidential and protected as per jurisdictional personal health information (PHI) privacy regulations.

NOTE: Limitations on confidentiality, data protection and record-keeping regulations articulated by Regulatory Colleges (RC) (ie. CRPO, OPQ) supercede DMTAC's guidelines. Practitioners not registered with RCs are required to adhere to their provincial/territorial PHI regulations.

NOTE: Record keeping will include at minimum: Name of client(s); cost of session; date of session; treatment provided; treatment outcomes; practitioner's professional assessment and any referrals made.

NOTE: Practitioners will retain client records under the conditions outlined by their Regulatory Bodies if applicable; otherwise, practitioners are strongly recommended to securely retain client records for ten years, or ten years past the 18th birthday of a minor client as per standard protocols.

- c) Referral and reporting responsibilities: DMT practitioners will refer clients to appropriate professionals promptly and with care when they identify that a client's needs surpass their competencies and/or capacity. DMT practitioners are familiar with their jurisdiction's laws and guidelines regarding mandatory reporting and duty-to-warn obligations.
- d) Advertising: DMT practitioners will not solicit client testimonials and are required to use all professional titles and certifications transparently and accurately in promotional materials, and in-person and/or online representation. They will clearly state their fees for services and will employ judicious and accurate descriptions of potential treatment outcomes (ie. avoiding false or misleading claims).
- e) Requirement to identify breaches of DMTAC's Code of Ethics and/or Standards of Practice by the practitioner or other practitioners within 30 days of the perceived violation by communicating directly with complaints@dmnac.org

Knowledge-based Practice

A DMT strives to provide evidenced-based, current, appropriate and client-centred care to all clients.

- a) Continuing Education and Professional Development (36 hours) completed every three years, which should include a **variety** of educational and developmental activities.

NOTE: Activities may include: peer reading and/or discussion groups; related coursework; candidate's own dance/movement practice; training in DMT supervision; publishing research; conference attendance; volunteering with DMTAC; in-service training; providing instruction on DMT for a DMTAC-accredited program; personal psychotherapy, etc.

- b) Justifies and situates treatment within current DMT practice, knowledge and theory.

Professional Responsibilities, Relationships and Leadership

A DMT represents the profession with integrity and fulfills their professional responsibilities.

- a) Yearly renewal of DMT certification including CEPD attestation every **three** years.
- b) Yearly renewal of professional membership with DMTAC.
- c) Professional relationships: A DMT practitioner demonstrates professional integrity; communicates, consults and coordinates with members of a client's circle of care; amplifies and prioritizes a client's voice with their consent.
- d) Multiple (ie. Dual) Relationships: A DMT practitioner avoids engaging in multiple ("dual") relationships with a client (for example, a business or personal relationships with client or a client's family member) that risks client exploitation and/or impairs a practitioner's professional judgment. If a dual relationship cannot be avoided, practitioners may proceed with safeguards in place (for example, supervision, clarity

around boundaries, mechanism for managing conflicts of interest, etc.).

- e) Leadership: A DMT practitioner educates and informs clients, staff, organizations and public about DMT, related training, research, certification and DMT services; and advocates for improvement of DMT training, advocacy, administration and practices.
- f) Research: DMTAC values and supports research that broadens the practice, legitimacy and scope of DMT in Canada. However, DMTAC is not currently engaged in approving or funding research. Members who wish to engage in DMT-related research must do so within the parameters of accredited educational institutions and/or provincially or federally administered granting agencies.

Client-Centered Practice

A DMT is aware of their client's and their own positionalities and intersectionalities and promotes, protects and prioritizes the client's voice, needs, goals and interests.

- a) Active commitment to and engagement with inclusion, affirmation, diversity, equity, accessibility and solidarity within the therapeutic relationship.
- b) Recognition and active mitigation of the power imbalances inherent between client and practitioner. For example, a DMT practitioner prioritized collaboration and the co-creation of treatments, goals and outcomes.
- c) Adherence and application of DMTAC's Ethical Standards including use of Therapeutic Touch and Informed consent. Specifically, the practitioner will provide the client with comprehensive information about DMT interventions such as touch/purpose of touch, as part of

ongoing consent and will inform the client that they may withdraw their consent at any time.

- d) Competency self-assessment, Safe and Effective Use of Self, and fitness to practice: DMT practitioners will engage in on-going, compassionate and honest self-reflection of their personal and professional biases and competencies, the intent of personal disclosure, scope of practice, experience and support to ensure they are present, effective and safe for their clients and themselves.
- e) Peer and supervisory support: A DMT practitioner will proactively seek peer and supervisory support and insight after their mandatory supervision hours are complete.