

Healing Touch Program

Scope of Practice

PURPOSE:

This Scope of Practice statement defines four levels of Healing Touch (HT) practice and outlines how HT providers may refer to themselves, how they can practice and what they must be mindful of when practicing.

GENERAL STATEMENTS THAT APPLY TO ALL DEFINED LEVELS OF PRACTICE

Code of Ethics

When offering an HT session, students, apprentices and practitioners will be mindful to follow the HTP Code of Ethics and abide by all applicable local, state, and national laws governing their services. HT providers do not diagnose, prescribe, or treat medical disorders and use language that clarifies this (such as: using the terms “client”, not patient; “clear, open, and balance”, not cure; “assess and diagnose energy fields and centers”, not diagnose medical conditions; “recommend”, not prescribe; etcetera). Providers make referrals to other health care professionals as appropriate/ needed, and, at all times, respecting the professional status of other health care practitioners.

Informed Consent

All HT providers are encouraged to develop and use a Consent Form when offering a HT session. HT practitioners who administer care through a health care facility are required to operate under the facility’s Informed Consent policy.

Session Documentation

Starting from Level 2 course completion, all students are encouraged to use Session Intake and Session Documentation forms whenever possible. HT providers will be mindful that this information is considered confidential and will therefore follow privacy regulations for documentation and HIPAA regulations or confidentiality policies within your region or country. HT providers understand exceptions that will apply to holding and maintaining confidentiality and confidential records.

License to Touch

Students, apprentices and practitioners are expected to understand and comply with the laws of the state/province in which they are offering Healing Touch and applicable federal regulations. Students, apprentices and practitioners who hold a professional license are expected to understand how touch either is or is not included or restricted in their scope of practice and comply accordingly.

Liability/Malpractice Insurance

It is expected that HT Practitioners will carry liability/malpractice insurance according to state, federal and professional laws to protect themselves and clients.

Charging for a Session

It is recommended that until a student/practitioner meets minimal standards for a professional, safe and skilled HT practice, asking a full charge for a HT session is not appropriate or ethical. As a HT Practitioner (successful program course completion of Levels 1-5), a full session fee for HT may be acceptable and encouraged. Once a student is certified as a HT Practitioner, or graduated from the HT Program with a sufficient skill level, a full charge (approximately the price of similar therapies in the geographical location) is then considered acceptable and encouraged. Students may consider sliding scale fees as well as donations for sessions based on the individual student’s/practitioner’s skill set and credentials. Healing Touch students and graduates may also choose to offer their services on a voluntary basis without compensation as desired.

DEFINED LEVELS OF PRACTICE

I. Student of Healing Touch:

Students who have received a Certificate of Completion (also commonly known as a Certificate of Attendance) for a Level 1 through Level 3 course, taught by a Healing Touch Certified Instructor, and are actively participating in the Healing Touch educational program may refer to themselves as a Student of Healing Touch. They may offer sessions to friends, family, community and potentially a client population (if already a practicing health care professional) based on their understanding and application of the HT coursework they have completed.

II. Healing Touch Practitioner Apprentice:

Students who have completed Level 4 (received a Certificate of Completion for the Level 4 class) and are participating in a minimum one-year mentorship process with a Qualified Mentor (QM)/ Healing Touch Certified Practitioner (HTCP) may call themselves a Healing Touch Practitioner Apprentice (HTP-A). As apprentices, practitioners are actively building their understanding of the clinical work, professionalism issues and business skills.

III. Healing Touch Practitioner:

Students who have completed Healing Touch Program Levels I through 5 (received a Certificate of Completion for each class) and have also received a Certificate of Course Completion (Program Graduation) issued by the Healing Touch Program Director, may refer to themselves as a Healing Touch Practitioner (HTP).

IV. Healing Touch Certified Practitioner (HTCP):

A Healing Touch Certified Practitioner is a Healing Touch Practitioner who, in addition to completing the program coursework, met the certification criteria and was approved by the Healing Touch Certification Governing Committee. S/he may thus refer to her/himself as a Healing Touch Certified Practitioner (HTCP). Renewal of practitioner certification is required every five years.

HEALING TOUCH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Healing Touch is an energy therapy in which practitioners consciously use their hands in a heart-centered and intentional way to enhance, support and facilitate the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual health and self-healing. Healing Touch utilizes light or near-body touch to clear, balance and energize the human energy system in an effort to promote healing for the whole person; Mind, Body, Spirit.

The Healing Touch curriculum is a multi-level continuing education program in energy-based therapy that progresses from beginning to advanced practice and is complementary to health care. The core curriculum program incorporates a variety of energy-based methods that are energetically sequenced in five levels of instruction: Levels 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Healing Touch provides Continuing Education contact hours for nurses and massage therapists.

Healing Touch is rooted in the concepts of consciousness, compassion/caring, energy medicine, authentic presence, intentionality, self-empowerment, the Mind, Body, Spirit triad and belief in the body's innate tendency toward healing. The Healing Touch practitioner integrates her/his HT knowledge with the personal and professional background s/he brings to Healing Touch.

Each HT course level includes both didactic and experiential learning. Participants practice and share in classroom experiences using energy-based healing methods and principles.

The Healing Touch student undergoes a rigorous and comprehensive program that includes 114-118 hours of standardized curriculum with Healing Touch Certified Instructors. In addition, the program philosophy encourages the developing practitioner to enhance skills and knowledge through recommended reading, self-care (including receiving HT on a regular basis), networking, and support groups and through practicing Healing Touch. There is a strong commitment to personal growth and knowledge of holistic health principles.