

Professional Development Series

Office Safety is Part of Safe Practice and the Responsibility of Every Professional Practitioner

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Professional Development for Healing Touch and Energy Medicine Practitioners

As our professional careers in energy practice continue to rapidly develop and we become more exposed to mainstream regulations of professionalism, Healing Touch Professional Association (HTPA) is called to continually establish new ways to support you and help you protect the practice and career you love. We are committed to providing benefits and tools for your growth and success. We offer this monthly column for your use - personal and/or business. We encourage you to print it and share with your colleagues, students and/or clients. To learn more about HTPA and its many other benefits, please visit www.HTProfessionalAssociation.com

Energy Medicine practitioners believe in developing a heart-centered relationship with their clients. Their intent is to assist their clients in improving the quality of their life, often by improving their health. This may be through a wellness program; alleviating acute or chronic pain; reducing stress; and/or by helping them achieve a relaxed state so that their bodies can begin, or continue to heal. Even terminally ill clients can be helped to improve the quality of life without necessarily improving their *health*. Providing a treatment space that is conducive to healing aids in all of these endeavors.

Your treatment space extends beyond the room in which your client's session takes place to the entire area that your



client will experience from the moment they enter until they leave the premises. There should be a basic goal of ensuring the safety of everyone who steps on the property/into that space. This goal is one of the foundations of providing an excellent and safe experience for anyone that you see.

Many of us automatically assume that our treatment space/property is safe and provides a relaxing atmosphere. However, sometimes we fail to take into account the people around us and their particular needs. For example, your client may be either emotionally or physically impaired due to a recent trauma and not be paying attention to their new surroundings. An object or step that normally would not be unsafe, may present an issue to those in this condition. Or, those coming to you suffering from a terminal illness and therefore compromised, may be weak, unbalanced and unsteady on their feet. Being aware of the challenges your treatment space presents to each unique client is the duty and responsibility of every professional practitioner.

You may practice in a space in your home, rent an office or work in a setting that includes other practitioners. Some of you may be in a situation where you manage a center and rent to other practitioners. In any case, you want to review your

treatment space on a regular, periodic basis for possible safety issues. Be mindful of obstacles that might cause a slip or fall, making sure walkways are clear and if needed, handrails are present. Consider slick floors, corners of rugs, electrical cord placement and objects such as magazines or books left on the floor. Don't forget to consider how your client enters your building and when applicable, remove ice and snow, loose gravel or any other substances that might cause an accident.

Regardless of how aware and careful you might be, unforeseen accidents can occur. In addition to periodic review and unwavering awareness of your premises, it is considered good business practice to protect yourself and your clients with General and Professional Liability Insurance coverage. Liability coverage is crucial to the protection of your practice, giving you peace of mind that in the case of something unexpected happening - you, your assets, your hard-earned business and your finances are protected.

Protect yourself and look into General and Professional Liability Insurance today. It's affordable and for pennies a day is your additional "safety-net." Don't let something unforeseen destroy what you have so carefully put in place. The protection it brings is priceless.

Check out www.HTPProfessionalAssociation.com for more information.