

Policy Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide all Q Academy staff and students with clear guidelines for the professional conduct and levels of exposure and draping during physical assessment or treatment.

Policy Scope

This policy applies to all Q Academy staff and students in all campus locations and delivery methods including online and external study.

Terms

Draping - this is the common term used when a standard clean towel is used to cover a client. The standard towel is used that is an appropriate size for the client; a “Bath Sheet” is normally used for a body towel.

Policy content

At Q Academy you will be required to give and receive massage. At all times throughout the process of giving and receiving massage professional conduct is expected. At all times during treatment both the therapist and client should be comfortable and the client should always be appropriately draped. Only areas of the body that are exposed are touched during assessment or treatment.

Draping

A person receiving massage can choose to remove clothing to the level that they’re comfortable. Underwear should always be worn by all clients while receiving massage. A general guide for draping of the lower half of the body is that the towel will cover the same area as “classic briefs” or full sized underwear. Examples can be seen on the following page. When the client is lying supine (face-up) the chest must be draped at all times. Regardless of gender the breast tissue and nipples should always be covered.

During a physical health assessment there will be times that students and/or clients will be in various states of undress. For the purpose of professionalism, the student or client should be pre-warned so they can dress appropriately. In the case that they’re not comfortable with the level of undress, the standard draping using a towel should be applied.

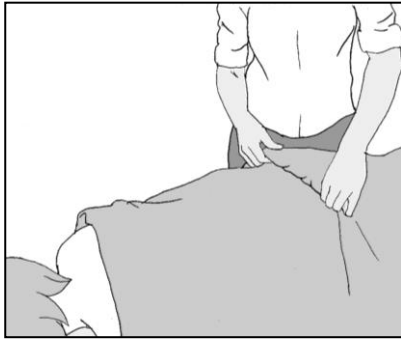
Appropriate and professional touch

Appropriate and professional touch is expected at all times. Prior to making any form of physical contact, the therapist must have informed consent from the client. In the event that the therapist recommends a change to the treatment plan agreed upon at the outset, which may involve a change to the techniques used or areas of the body previously consented to by the client, the therapist must first obtain the client’s verbal consent to proceed.

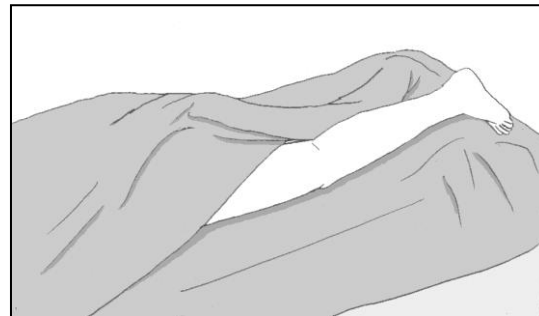
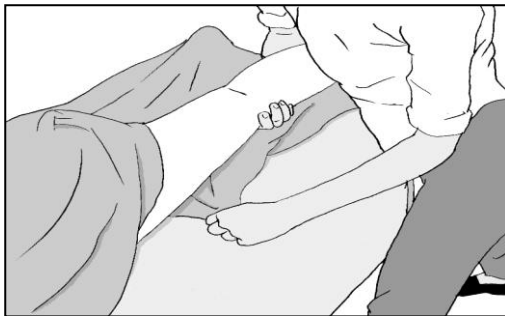
Breach of standards

If you feel a fellow student is breaching any defined standard or boundary please report it immediately. This can be done by talking to the coach or any team members in confidence. Depending on the reported breach the student may be instructed on what is considered to be professional standard of draping and obtaining informed consent. For further information on the complaint procedure please see “QA Complaint Flow Chart” and “QA Complaint Form” both located on Q Academy’s policy and procedure page; <http://www.qacademy.com.au/Policies>

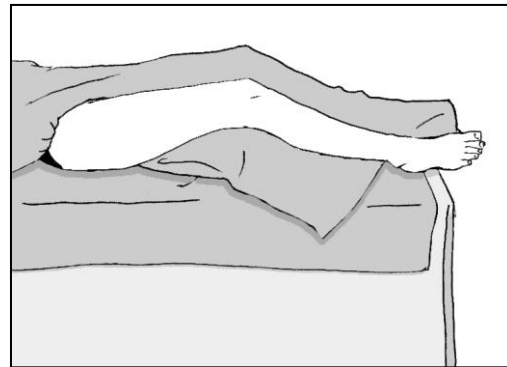
Undraping the back



Undraping the lower limb - Prone



Undraping the lower limb - Supine



Undraping the Chest and arm

