

ENDING THE THERAPEUTIC RELATIONSHIP

Sometimes, you may find yourself unable to maintain professional boundaries, objectivity, or professional judgment within a therapeutic relationship. If this happens, you need to end the therapeutic relationship.

IDENTIFY THE SITUATION

CAN YOU RE-ESTABLISH PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES?

YES

Re-establish professional boundaries if possible.



NO

If you can't re-establish boundaries and objectivity, it is time to end the therapeutic relationship.

Consider how boundaries became eroded. Identify actions you can take to reestablish boundaries.



Talk to the client.

Explain that they are being discharged and why.



Monitor the situation and the health of the therapeutic relationship.

Help the client find another physiotherapist who can provide continuing physiotherapy care.



“REMEMBER THAT IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES AND HEALTHY THERAPEUTIC RELATIONSHIPS WITH YOUR CLIENTS.”