

## CHAPTER 10

---

**PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS**

---

**HOUSE BILL 94-1146**

BY REPRESENTATIVES Kreutz, Owen, Anderson, Benavidez, Martin, Rupert, and Tucker;  
also SENATORS Hopper, Martinez, Wham, and R. Powers.

**AN ACT****CONCERNING WOUND DEBRIDEMENT PERFORMED BY PHYSICAL THERAPISTS.**

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

**SECTION 1.** 12-41-103 (4), Colorado Revised Statutes, 1991 Repl. Vol., is repealed as follows:

**12-41-103. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

(4) "~~Nonsurgical wound debridement~~" means the removal of dead tissue from a wound, by appropriate methods that do not include surgical excision of tissue.

**SECTION 2.** 12-41-113 (3), Colorado Revised Statutes, 1991 Repl. Vol., is amended to read:

**12-41-113. Special practice authorities and requirements.** (3) **Wound debridement.** A physical therapist is authorized to perform ~~nonsurgical~~ wound debridement under a physician's order when such debridement is consistent with the scope of physical therapy practice and, at the discretion of the physician, may perform such debridement without the direct and immediate supervision of the physician. THE PERFORMANCE OF SUCH WOUND DEBRIDEMENT SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO VIOLATE THE PROHIBITION AGAINST PERFORMING SURGERY PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-41-105 (1) (a).

---

*Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.*

**SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: March 9, 1994