TECHNIQUE STANDARD 16

Perform Massage to the Chest Wall

Conditions:
Given that massage to structures of the chest wall has been requested or clinically indicated prior to treatment, and that the client has consented to the treatment plan.

Clinical Indicators concerning chest wall musculature, including but not limited to:
• post-mastectomy
• rehabilitation after cancer treatment
• chronic respiratory conditions
• relief of muscular discomfort and/or pain
• supportive treatment of postural rebalancing
• scarring of the tissue of the chest wall

Task:
Provide treatment to structures of the chest wall

Standard:
Quality / Technical
• So that the chest/breast is uncovered only with the prior and voluntary consent of the client (notwithstanding clause in Communication / Public Health Standard 12 applies).

Safety
• So that structures of the chest wall are not treated or that treatment is modified if contraindications to treatment of this area exist.

Reference:
Health Care Consent Act, 1996
Position Statement on Treating Sensitive Areas