



## DIAGNOSTIC ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia

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## COMMUNICATIONS RELEASE

To: Pulmonary Function Facilities

Date: June 2017

Re: **Revision of the DAP Pulmonary Function Accreditation Standards**

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On May 3, 2017 the College's Diagnostic Accreditation Program (DAP) Committee approved changes to the medical peer review accreditation standards for pulmonary function. Because you are an accredited pulmonary function facility, this email is being sent to provide updated information about the changes and how they will affect your service.

### What has changed?

The medical peer review standards, located within the quality improvement section, were amended to reflect effective and practical peer review activities within pulmonary function laboratories. In addition to the removal of non-mandatory requirements, the amended version clearly defines the required frequency, number of studies and assessment scale.

The DAP will also be providing templates to assist facilities with documenting their assessments. Facilities will be encouraged to use these templates to standardize peer review activities and meet the DAP's accreditation requirements. These documents will be available on the DAP website (<https://www.cpsbc.ca/programs/dap>).

### Why were changes made?

Following the release and subsequent assessment to the 2015 pulmonary function accreditation standards, feedback from stakeholders was that the medical peer review standards were unclear and unattainable. To address these concerns, the DAP facilitated an advisory panel to discuss medical peer review in pulmonary function. This panel was comprised of respirologists from all health authorities. The role of the advisory panel was to determine what an effective and practical medical peer review program is within pulmonary function laboratories and identify documentation to support a facility's implementation of a program. The feedback from the advisory panel was presented to the DAP Committee, and the proposed standard changes and templates were approved on May 3, 2017.

### What does this mean for my facility?

The standards will take effect immediately for all accredited pulmonary function facilities. All facilities with outstanding medical peer review mandatory requirements will be required to meet the new

standards to obtain full accreditation. The DAP recognizes that facilities may need time to develop a medical peer review system or to amend their current process. If this is the case, facilities are encouraged to request an extension of their outstanding mandatory requirements to ensure their accreditation award is not affected.

### **What documentation is required and how will it be assessed?**

To meet the DAP mandatory requirements, facilities will need to submit their policy and procedures for medical peer review. In addition, evidence of participation in the medical peer review program will be required for each physician working within the service.

The medical peer review templates, located on the DAP website, will assist facilities in meeting the DAP requirements if completed and submitted to the DAP as evidence. During the on-site assessment, the assessors will randomly review completed peer review assessment forms to ensure compliance with the standards. If the facility has not implemented a peer review process prior to the on-site assessment, the completed annual summary form will need to be submitted as evidence to satisfy the mandatory requirements in the accreditation report.

### **What if I am a single physician at my facility?**

The DAP recognizes the challenges faced by sole physician practices. It is recommended that these physicians reach out to colleagues within multi-physician practices.

### **What if more information is needed?**

A complete copy of the standards can be downloaded from the DAP website at <https://www.cpsbc.ca/programs/dap/accreditation/pulmonary-function>.

The medical peer review templates can be downloaded from the DAP website at <https://www.cpsbc.ca/programs/dap/accreditation/pulmonary-function>.

If you have additional questions, please contact Mr. Nav Rakhra, accreditation research and development officer at 604-733-7758 extension 2308 or [nrakhra@cpsbc.ca](mailto:nrakhra@cpsbc.ca).