



College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia

Position Statement

Accreditation Requirements for Mobile Phlebotomy Services

DETAILS

Department/program: Diagnostic Accreditation Program

Date: February 8, 2019

PURPOSE

Position statements from the College provide background information and express or clarify the College's intent on a particular matter. They are intended as guidance for stakeholders in areas where events are evolving or changing, the implementation of processes and procedures may be premature, the implementation of a guideline or standard may not be necessary, another credible body (e.g. professional association) has already established guidelines or standards, or it is timely to communicate the College's broad intent before or as policies and procedures are developed.

This document addresses the Diagnostic Accreditation Program's (DAP) response to inquiries about accreditation requirements for mobile phlebotomy services.

BACKGROUND

The DAP has been made aware of mobile phlebotomy services being offered across the province with the intent of increasing access to patients. The phlebotomy services travel from a central location to the patients, either directly to the patients' homes or to a local gathering point for easy access such as a community centre or nursing home. The phlebotomist brings to the patient the required materials to complete the collection and returns to a central location for processing the collected samples.

POSITION

The College accreditation programs conduct a thorough assessment of the central locations from where mobile phlebotomy services originate. The assessments include accreditation of the facility's policies, processes and procedures that directly translate to the mobile phlebotomy services offered. Mobile phlebotomy services directly associated with an accredited DAP facility require no further accreditation.

Temporary phlebotomy sites utilized by mobile phlebotomy services are considered sample collection sites and require accreditation if they include equipment, material and supplies to facilitate the collection, processing and handling of samples in preparation of diagnostic services regardless of who prepared the site.

Mobile phlebotomy services that do not originate from an accredited sample collection site are required to be accredited by the DAP prior to commencing phlebotomy services.

REFERENCES

Section 5-26(1) of the Bylaws.

CONTACT

For further information, please contact laboratorymedicine@cpsbc.ca.