A practice standard reflects the minimum standard of professional behaviour and ethical conduct on a specific topic or issue expected by the College of all physicians in British Columbia. Standards also reflect relevant legal requirements and are enforceable under the Health Professions Act, RSBC 1996, c.183 (HPA) and College Bylaws under the HPA.

Registrants may seek advice on these issues by contacting the College and asking to speak with a member of the registrar staff, or by seeking medical legal advice from the CMPA.
PREAMBLE

This document is a practice standard of the Board of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia.

COLLEGE’S POSITION

Physicians who provide injections of botulinum toxin, dermal fillers or venous sclerotherapy must have completed relevant medical education and training prior to performing such procedures.

Physicians must either provide these injections themselves, or following assessment of the patient, they may order a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse to perform the injection. No unlicensed person (such as a medical office assistant) may provide these injections. Physicians who allow unlicensed persons to provide these services under their direction may be subject to charges of unprofessional conduct. Physicians who order a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse to provide these services must be aware of the extent of training and the ability of the registered nurse or licensed practical nurse to perform the injections and meet the standard of care. At the time of the procedure, the ordering physician or another physician who has assumed responsibility must be present within the facility and immediately available for consultation.

Physicians are reminded to be aware of and comply with the College’s standard Advertising and Communication with the Public.