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[Registrar's message—addressing personal biases, racism and discrimination in medical practice](#) [1]

The very real fact that personal biases can affect patient care was highlighted recently at the College's Education Day where First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Joe Gallagher, and FNHA Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Evan Adams, called on members of the medical profession to examine their own actions and behaviours when treating Indigenous patients.

[Read more about Registrar's message—addressing personal biases, racism and discrimination in medical practice](#) [1]



[Cannabis legalization: minor changes to College standard, and a reminder to physicians to practise without impairment](#) [2]

As of October 17, 2018, recreational use of cannabis will be legal in Canada. Accordingly, the College will make minor amendments to the current practice standard, Cannabis for Medical Purposes. Although federal laws have changed, few reliable published studies remain available on the medical benefits of cannabis and physicians must continue to take appropriate precautions when prescribing cannabis to patients for medical reasons. Proper assessment,

documentation, and patient education remain imperative in ensuring that patients are using cannabis safely.

[Read more about Cannabis legalization: minor changes to College standard, and a reminder to physicians to practise without impairment](#) [2]



[Notification of upcoming changes to MAiD reporting requirements](#) [3]

On November 1, 2018, the federal government will introduce new legal requirements for the reporting of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) for monitoring purposes. Monitoring, oversight and reporting for MAiD will be administered by the BC Ministry of Health's Medical Assistance in Dying Oversight Unit. The new requirements apply to physicians reporting both the provision of, and transfer of care for, MAiD.

[Read more about Notification of upcoming changes to MAiD reporting requirements](#) [3]



[Unlawful practitioners are placing the public at risk](#) [4]

The College's public protection duty includes investigating unlawful practice and enforcing the prohibition on using reserved titles. Over the past four years, the College has been successful in prosecuting unlawful practitioners and will

continue efforts to eliminate unlawful practice in the province.

[Read more about Unlawful practitioners are placing the public at risk](#) [4]

DRUG
PROGRAMS
Update

[EMRs and duplicates](#) [5]

Electronic medical records and prescribing controlled medications may pose challenges that can sometimes lead to prescription errors. Vigilance by prescribers and dispensers is important to ensure patient safety.

[Read more about EMRs and duplicates](#) [5]

DRUG
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[Take advantage of College courses on prescribing opioids](#) [6]

In the wake of the opioid crisis, the number of educational courses on safe prescribing of opioids has increased, both live and online. The College offers two courses that are well-attended, highly regarded and accredited for CPD credits.

[Read more about Take advantage of College courses on prescribing opioids](#) [6]

[Is your emergency cart ready for a medical emergency? \[7\]](#)

Recent findings during accreditation assessments uncovered several deficiencies in emergency carts, including expired medications and medical supplies, missing laryngoscope blades and handles, oxygen tanks with no regulator and nipple attached, and outdated Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) algorithms.

[Read more about Is your emergency cart ready for a medical emergency? \[7\]](#)

[More updated and new accreditation standards \[8\]](#)

The Non-Hospital Medical and Surgical Facilities Accreditation Program (NHMSFAP) Committee is pleased to announce the posting of five more updated accreditation standards and one new accreditation standard.

[Read more about More updated and new accreditation standards \[8\]](#)

[Steps to detecting bias, finding quality \[9\]](#)

Applying a few simple steps can detect bias in even the most lauded medical studies and prestigious medical journals.

[Read more about Steps to detecting bias, finding quality](#) [9]



[CPD events: mark your calendars](#) [10]

Information on all upcoming events and workshops can be found here.

[Read more about CPD events: mark your calendars](#) [10]

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[Read more about Regulatory actions](#) [11]

The *College Connector* is sent to every current registrant of the College. Decisions of the College on matters of standards and guidelines are contained in this publication. The College therefore assumes that each registrant is aware of these matters. Questions or comments about this publication should be directed to communications@cpsbc.ca [13].

To download a PDF version of this issue, please click [here](#) [14].

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