



## College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia

Serving the public by regulating physicians and surgeons

PPEP  
Update

### [Quality improvement does not equate to “pass or fail” \[1\]](#)

The Physician Practice Enhancement Program (PPEP) is educational and its mandate is to encourage ongoing quality improvement in multiple aspects of physicians' practices. Everyone has room for at least some improvement, which is what PPEP is designed to uncover and encourage.

From the first mail-out to the office assessment and physician interview to the resulting report, there are many opportunities for physicians to review their clinical practices and record-keeping. While most physicians report it is initially stressful, it should be considered a reflective, and ultimately, an educational process.

Physicians may want to ask these key questions in advance:

- How can I improve on what I may have been doing since medical school and residency? Do I recognize what medical knowledge and standards of care have changed or know where to look to apply these changes into my practice?
- My medical records show the clinical care I provide. Do my encounter notes clearly detail why a patient was seen, what was found, and what was done?
- As I complete these notes, do I reflect on what assumptions I may have made, and what I may have missed?
- If another physician came into my office, could he or she efficiently and effectively assume the care of my patients?

- Is there enough information in the patient's cumulative patient profile (CPP) for another physician to understand the patient's past, familial, and social history? Is there enough information in the CPP to trigger me to ask about necessary longitudinal care/health maintenance, or to remind me of factors to consider in my management?

While all physicians want to do well in the eyes of their peers, no one will get 100 per cent on their assessment. The program is not about passing or failing. Rather, PPEP enables every physician to further enhance the care they provide for their patients, to continue to adapt, and to continue to learn. It is an ongoing process of professional development, reflection on practice, and self-improvement. Many assessed physicians have stated openly that they valued the process and have made positive changes to their practices.

This is the desired outcome for all BC physicians.

Find more information about the program, assessment standards, and available resources [here](#) [2].

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