



College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia

Serving the public by regulating physicians and surgeons

[Practice Standards and Professional Guidelines \[1\]](#)

The College develops *Practice Standards*, *Professional Guidelines* and *Legislative Guidance* to assist physicians in meeting high standards of medical practice and conduct. The topics addressed focus on specific issues that are relevant to the practice of medicine. Physicians are encouraged to become familiar with these documents and review them regularly as they are routinely updated over time.

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](#) [2], RSBC 1996, c.183 (HPA) and College [Bylaws](#) [3] under the HPA.

A **professional guideline** reflects a recommended course of action established based on the values, principles and duties of the medical profession. Physicians may exercise reasonable discretion in their decision making based on the guidance provided.

Legislative guidance provides physicians with assistance in navigating legislation applicable to medical practice. These documents are meant to be used as a helpful resource and should be read in conjunction with the legislation they refer to.

Physicians seeking specific advice or clarification on any of the documents or other professional matters should contact the College and make an appointment to speak with a member of the College's registrar staff.

[Practice Standards](#)

[Professional Guidelines](#)

Source URL (modified on 2019-06-21 15:07):

<https://www.cpsbc.ca/for-physicians/standards-guidelines>

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