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COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
& SURGEONS OF ALBERTA

STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

Human Health Research

Under Review: No
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COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS OF ALBERTA

The ***Standards of Practice*** of the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta ("CPSA") are the **minimum** standards of professional behavior and ethical conduct expected of all regulated members registered in Alberta. Standards of Practice are enforceable under the *Health Professions Act* and will be referenced in the management of complaints and in discipline hearings. CPSA also provides **Advice to the Profession** to support the implementation of the Standards of Practice.

1. This standard applies to any regulated member involved in human health research as identified through a current and recognized screening tool[1].

2. A regulated member who intends to conduct human health research **must** comply with the *Health Information Act*, including to submit a proposal for review by a research ethics board in the Province of Alberta. Such boards include:

   a. Health Research Ethics Board of Alberta (HREBA)

   b. Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board (CHREB), University of Calgary

   c. Health Research Ethics Board (HREB), University of Alberta

3. A regulated member **must** have approval from a research ethics board before commencing human health research.

4. A regulated member participating in human health research **must:**

   a. ensure the welfare of any patient involved in the research study is the primary concern throughout the duration of the study;

   b. disclose to patients that the study has been reviewed by an ethics board and relevant conditions imposed;

[1] As of this date, the recommended tool is the ARECCI (A pRoject Ethics Community Consensus Initiative).

Terms used in the Standards of Practice:
- "Regulated member" means any person who is registered or who is required to be registered as a member of this College. The College regulates physicians, surgeons and osteopaths.
- "Must" refers to a mandatory requirement.
- "May" means that the physician may exercise reasonable discretion.
- "Patient" includes, where applicable, the patient's legal guardian or substitute decision maker.

c. comply with the requirements of the research ethics board as it relates to initial and ongoing review of the research study; and

d. disclose any potential or actual conflicts of interest to the research ethics board.

RELATED STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

- *Code of Ethics & Professionalism*
- *Conflict of Interest*
- *Informed Consent*

COMPANION RESOURCES

- Alberta Clinical Research Consortium
- ARECCI Ethics Screening Tool
- Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRCC)