

## STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

# Re-Entering Medical Practice or Changing Scope of Practice

Under Review: No

Issued By: Council: January 1, 2010

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. A regulated **must** notify CPSA when the physician intends to return to medical practice after an absence or retirement of three (3) years or more.
2. A regulated who is returning to medical practice after an absence or retirement of three (3) years or more **must** undergo a review by the Registrar and may be required to complete an assessment and retraining satisfactory to the Registrar prior to returning to medical practice.
3. A regulated member who intends to substantially change his/ her medical practice by adding medical services which the physician has not provided on a frequent or continuous basis over the previous three (3) years:
  - a. **must** notify the Registrar;
  - b. **must** provide documentary evidence satisfactory to the Registrar attesting to the acquisition of training, experience, and/or competence to perform the proposed change in medical services; and
  - c. **may** be required to complete an assessment and training or retraining satisfactory to the Registrar prior to initiating the proposed change in medical services.

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**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.

## RELATED STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

- [\*Closing or Leaving a Medical Practice\*](#)

## COMPANION RESOURCES

- [Practice Readiness Assessment](#)
- [Return to Practice application form](#)
- [Change in Scope of Practice application form](#)

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