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 member transferring full or partial responsibility for a patient’s care to another healthcare provider(s) must:
   a. communicate clearly with the accepting healthcare provider(s) and provide a timely, written summary that includes the following information:
      i. identification of the roles and responsibilities of the regulated member and other healthcare providers involved in the patient’s ongoing care;
      ii. pertinent clinical information, including outstanding test results and active consultations;
      iii. treatment plans and recommendations for follow-up care;
   b. have a discussion with the patient to:
      i. identify the roles and responsibilities of the regulated member and other healthcare providers involved in the patient’s ongoing care; and
      ii. explain treatment plans and recommendations for follow-up care.

2. A regulated member discharging a patient from a healthcare facility must:
   a. complete a timely discharge summary consistent with the policies of the facility; and
b. provide relevant healthcare providers with pertinent clinical information, including, but not limited to:

i. discharge medications;

ii. outstanding investigations, including responsibility for requisitioning follow-up; and

iii. active consultations.

RELATED STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

- Continuity of Care
- Episodic Care
- Referral Consultation
- Responsibility for a Medical Practice

COMPANION RESOURCES

- Advice to the Profession:
  - Episodic Care
  - Referral Consultation
  - Responsibility for a Medical Practice
- CMPA’s The Most Responsible Physician