

POLICY # & TITLE	10.0 PHM: Blood Borne Infections Policy
<b>PURPOSE</b>	Ensure regulated members performing “exposure prone procedures” or may have been exposed to Blood Borne Viral Infections (BBVI) know their status to avoid risk to their patients
<b>SCOPE</b>	Regulated members performing “exposure prone procedures” or may have been exposed to BBVI that may affect their ability to practice medicine safely
<b>NOTES</b>	<p>“Regulated member” means any person who is registered or is required to be registered as a member of the CPSA.</p> <p>The Alberta Expert Review Panel for Blood Borne Viral Infections in Healthcare Workers (ERP) provides guidance to any healthcare worker who is infected with Hepatitis B or C, HIV or other blood borne viral infections to ensure safe practice.</p> <p>Regulated members are not required to have testing to determine if they have a blood borne pathogen but regulated members who undertake “exposure prone procedures” are encouraged to know their status.</p> <p>Regulated members must also recognize other pathogens can pose a risk to patients and are encouraged to take any testing and/or treatment that is available. An example would be carriers of Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA).</p> <p>CPSA is responsible for ongoing monitoring of regulated members with BBVI diagnoses to ensure compliance with recommendations of the Expert Review Panel.</p>

**LAST REVISED: MAY 14, 2021**

### POLICY STATEMENT

Regulated members who have been exposed to and/or are diagnosed with BBVI must adhere to the following requirements:

- 1) Report any BBVI diagnoses to the Registrar or Physician Health Monitoring Program if undertaking exposure prone procedures as per the SHEA Guideline for Management of Healthcare Workers who are Infected with Hepatitis B Virus, Hepatitis C Virus and/or Human Immunodeficiency Virus (Table 2. Categorization of Healthcare-Associated Products According to Level of Risk for Bloodborne Pathogen Transmission, Category III)
- 2) Comply with the recommendations and guidelines of the ERP and CPSA for the specific monitoring of HBV, HCV, and HIV.
- 3) Participate in monitoring as follows:

- a) Provide CPSA with any information required to confirm their compliance with the recommendations of the ERP including:
    - i) Medical reports to confirm status of infection
    - ii) Compliance with treatment recommendations of their treating physician
    - iii) Compliance with any restrictions to scope of practice
    - iv) Confirmation from the workplace of compliance with recommendations
  - b) Notify the ERP and the CPSA if there has been a change in the status of their infection.
- 4) May need to undergo another review by the Expert Review Panel if there is:
- a) A change in their scope of practice
  - b) A change in the status of their infection
  - c) A change in guidelines
- 5) Understand that non-compliance to recommendations may result in:
- a) Referral to professional conduct
  - b) Request for withdrawal from practice
  - c) Actions being reported to the Chief Medical Officer of Health

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

- Alberta Expert Review Panel for Blood Borne Viral Infections in Healthcare Workers *(this document is currently under review and will be posted as soon as it is finalized)*
- [Principles and Framework of the Physician Health Monitoring Committee](#)
- [Physicians' Personal Health Information](#)
- [SHEA Guidelines](#)

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Registrar is given the authority to determine competence, including continuing competence of regulated members. The HPA allows the Registrar to delegate functions and duties to another person or committee. The Registrar's duties and responsibility under Part 3 of the HPA have been delegated to the Assistant Registrar(s) and/or Competence Committee responsible for continuing competence, including physician health monitoring.

## **APPROVAL**

Council governing the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta

## **AUTHORITY DOCUMENTS**

- [Health Professions Act](#)
- [CPSA Bylaws](#)
- [CPSA's Standards of Practice](#)
- [Code of Ethics & Professionalism](#)