

## STANDARD OF PRACTICE - DUTY TO REPORT SELF, COLLEAGUES, OR PATIENTS

### Consultation to Members, Stakeholders, and the Public

#### Introduction

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba (CPSM) is launching a consultation process to seek feedback from its members, stakeholders, and the public regarding members' duty to report themselves or colleagues if there is reason to believe their circumstances may impact their ability to practice medicine safely and competently, or to report a patient if there is a concern for public safety.

- Duty to Report Self - Members who may have a diminished ability to provide safe and competent medical care, become aware of any health condition that may affect their practice of medicine, or following specific personal circumstances, must self-report to CPSM.
- Duty to Report another CPSM member or other Regulated Health Professional – A member's duty to report another member who is unfit to practise or suffers from a condition that may affect their ability to practise, or a member of a different regulated health profession who meets the same criteria.
- Duty to Report the Medical Condition or Knowledge of Patient Information - Reporting a patient's medical condition or knowledge of certain facts requiring public protection to an external body is required by a wide variety of Provincial and Federal Legislations.

#### Need for A Standard

Currently, no central document provides all reporting requirements exists. The current duty to report provisions can be found throughout the Standards of Practice and legislation, which includes duties to self-report and report another member to CPSM. There are also statutory requirements for a wide variety of reporting patients.

CPSM identified the need to create one document containing requirements for physicians to make decisions regarding their health, balanced with CPSM's mandate to serve the public and ensure the safe practice of medicine by its members.

Furthermore, as societal expectations change regarding public safety, so too must the Standard.

#### The Standard

Physicians have a legal and professional obligation to maintain the confidentiality of patient information. There are circumstances, however, where physicians are either required or permitted to report particular events or clinical conditions to the appropriate government or regulatory agency.

The Standard of Practice for Duty to Report Self, Colleague, or Patient establishes mandatory requirements that may require or permit physicians to make a report.

## Resources

Additional resources attached to the Standard to assist members include:

- Contextual Information and Resources
- FAQs

## Methodology

The Working Group was composed of representatives from medicine and public representatives, with each person chosen for their diverse knowledge and experience.

## Consultation Process

CPSM Standards of Practice are distributed to the membership for consultation. This draft Standard of Practice is being distributed to members, stakeholders, and the public including other regulated health professions, government, patient safety groups, health organizations, Doctors Manitoba, and CMPA for consultation.

Input from diverse professional opinions will create a standard that is stronger and more comprehensive to ensure best practices for patient safety.

The consultation will be open for comments until April 30, 2021. Feedback from the consultation will be reviewed, and where appropriate, incorporated into a new Standard of Practice. It will then be brought to CPSM Council for final approval.

## How to Submit Your Comments

After reviewing the [Standard of Practice Duty to Report Self, Colleagues, or Patients](#) your feedback is requested in writing and can be emailed to [dutyreport@cpsm.mb.ca](mailto:dutyreport@cpsm.mb.ca).

**The deadline for feedback is April 30, 2021.** CPSM looks forward to hearing from you.