



## **POLICY**

### **Prescribing Practices Program**

**Initial Approval: March 19, 2021**

**Effective Date: March 19, 2021**

#### **1. Establishment**

- 1.1. A Prescribing Practices Program is established by Council and administered by Medical Consultants in the Quality Department under the Assistant Registrar.

#### **2. Authority**

- 2.1. CPSM regulates the practice of medicine, governs its members, maintains standards of practice to enhance the quality of practice of medicine, and monitors compliance with and enforces those standards. CPSM is responsible for ensuring its members practice good medical care as established in the CPSM Standards of Practice Regulation.
- 2.2. Participation of members in the activities of the Prescribing Practices Program is voluntary.

#### **3. Purpose and Objectives of the Prescribing Practices Program**

- 3.1. The purpose and objective is to promote prescribing practices that are informed by current evidence and reflects best practice.
- 3.2. The Prescribing Practices Program utilizes a quality improvement approach that strives to promote prescribing practices that balances patient safety and the needs of the patient with the member's duty to be a guardian of public safety.
- 3.3. The Prescribing Practices Program is to monitor and improve prescribing quality, including but not limited to prescribing for substances of abuse (including the authorization of medical cannabis), drugs that may put patients at an elevated risk of harm, and polypharmacy.
- 3.4. The primary approach of the Prescribing Practices Program is educational.

#### **4. Policies and Processes**

- 4.1. Members who do not wish to participate in the Prescribing Practices Program may have their prescribing practices reviewed by either the Central Standards Committee or at the discretion of the Registrar, by the Investigations Committee.
- 4.2. Notwithstanding a review undertaken by the Prescribing Practices Program, the matter may be referred to the Central Standards Committee, or at the discretion of the Registrar, to the Investigations Committee.

#### **5. Report to Council**

- 5.1. The Assistant Registrar responsible for the Prescribing Practices Program shall provide a report annually to Council containing a summary of its activities, statistical data, policy recommendations for consideration, and any other matters of importance.