



## PRACTICE DIRECTION

### Specialist Register Procedures During COVID-19 Pandemic

Initial Approval: April 9, 2020

Effective Date: April 9, 2020

Practice Directions set out requirements related to specific aspects of the practice of medicine. Practice Directions are used to enhance, explain, or guide members with respect to the subject matter relevant to the practice of medicine. Practice Directions provide more detailed information than contained in *The Regulated Health Professions Act*, Regulations, Bylaws, and Standards of Practice issued by the College. All members must comply with Practice Directions, per s. 86 of *The Regulated Health Professions Act*.

This Practice Direction is made under the authority of s 85 of the RHPA with specific reference to Section 2.9 of the CPSM General Regulation.

In accordance with section 2.9(2) of the *CPSM General Regulation*, in the special circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic, Council directs that:

1. The Registrar may enter on the specialist register in the Provisional (Speciality Practice – Limited) class, the name of a member in good standing who is not a certified specialist of the Royal College in accordance with section 2.9(2) of the *CPSM General Regulation*, but who is:
  - a) Either:
    - (i) a resident completing specialist post graduate medical education at any Canadian University in 2020; or
    - (ii) a fellow completing a recognized fellowship at a university in 2020 and has completed specialist post graduate medical education at any Canadian university;
  - b) intending to practise in Manitoba;
  - c) eligible to write one or more of the Royal College cancelled examinations; and
  - d) otherwise meet the eligibility criteria for registration in the provisional speciality practice limited class.for a limited duration of the postponement period - time to get results from next available exam sitting of the Royal College for that speciality, subject to availability, plus 30 days.
2. The regular enrollment fee of \$200 will be payable, but the regular documentation fee of \$600 will be waived.

3. The entry of this cohort onto the specialist register would be for the limited duration of the postponement period, which CPSM defines as the time to get results from next available exam sitting of the Royal College for that specialty, subject to availability, plus 30 days. Those registered in the provisional specialty practice limited class would be subject to supervision as directed by the Registrar to ensure patient safety in the absence of certifying examinations.
4. The supervision as directed by the Registrar would include:
  - a. seeking guidance and mentorship from the practice supervisor regarding professional practice as appropriate;
  - b. at the commencement of supervision, meeting with the practice supervisor, virtually or in person, to discuss professional practice in general terms and any concerns respecting professional practice; and
  - c. every 30 days following the commencement of supervision discussing with the practice supervisor, virtually or in person, professional practice and any concerns respecting professional practice;but the supervision would not include direct care management unless concerns by the practice supervisor or Registrar warranted this.
5. If at the conclusion of the Postponement Period the physician has not obtained certification (whether through deferral or unsuccessful), then their name will be removed from the specialist register and would revert to the non-specialist status (practice limited to area of specialty). If eligible they could write their exams at the next sitting in accordance with the Royal College eligibility rules. During this period in this case, the physician would not be able to bill as a specialist.