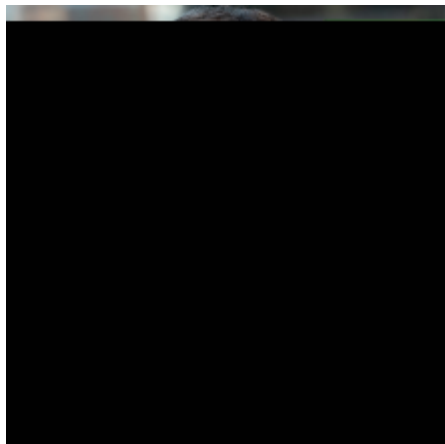




Registrar's message: navigating the ongoing journey towards cultural safety and humility



In February 2022, the College Board endorsed a new practice standard: *Indigenous Cultural Safety, Cultural Humility, and Anti-racism* in collaboration with the BC College of Nurses and Midwives. This was just one step in an ongoing journey to end Indigenous-specific racism in health care, where patient experiences continue to demonstrate its prevalence.

One case was recently shared in a [report](#) dedicated to the memory of Heather Winterstein, an Indigenous woman who died in an Ontario hospital. The report asserts that the circumstances of Heather's health issues and lifestyle factors were the lens through which staff assessed and judged her, missing the symptoms and signs of critical illness. Like so many similar reports, a number of useful and actionable recommendations were gifted to Niagara Health, including that they allocate time, resources and energy to instill cultural safety throughout the organization's staff, physicians and volunteers.

In BC, health authorities, health regulators and Doctors of BC all signed the Declaration of Commitment to Cultural Safety and Humility with First Nations Health Authority. As part of our

commitment to continue this work, the College is assessing registrants' awareness of the *Indigenous Cultural Safety, Cultural Humility and Anti-racism* practice standard and seeking to understand how they are applying the core principles in practice. Several research methods have been used.

Registrant survey

- 532 registrant responses

When asked about the awareness of the practice standard, 57% of respondents indicated that they were aware of the practice standard. Of those, only 48% had read or referenced it.

When asked about applying the standard in practice, 35% of respondents indicated that the standard aided them in providing culturally safe and humble care for Indigenous patients.

When asked which principles in the standard were helpful, the most common response was that the standard prompted deeper self-reflection on current practices.

When asked which barriers get in the way of applying the principles in the standard, the most common responses were limited time and resources, systemic issues, and difficult team dynamics.

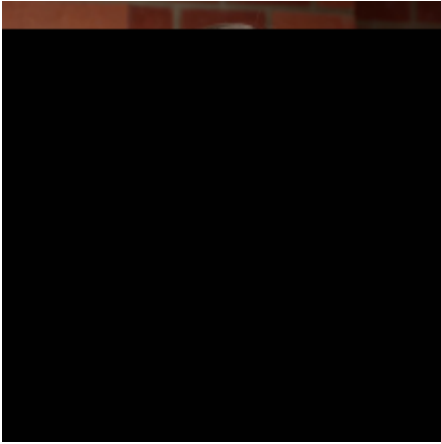
Registrant interviews

Six registrants who expressed an interest in this process agreed to participate in a one-on-one interview with an external consultant to discuss in more detail how they are applying the principles in their practice.

Focus groups

Two focus groups were held: one with non-Indigenous registrants and one with Indigenous registrants, aided by an Indigenous physician and knowledge keeper.

Introducing the College's new deputy registrar, Dr. Chris Hall



In March, Dr. Michael Murray retired from his position as deputy registrar after almost ten years leading the accreditation programs and Physician Practice Enhancement Program. We are grateful



improvement and experience, and acting vice president, medicine for Island Health. In addition to her nursing and medical experience, Dr. Hall is also a certified board director.



Community-based office sign requirements



Per section 7-5 of the College Bylaws, registrants practising in a private office are required to post a sign or provide written notice to patients that the physicians practising in that location are licensed and regulated by the College.

As the College launched a new logo in April 2023, registrants who have posted a now-retired crest are required to replace it with an office sign with the new logo. You can download an updated sign by logging onto the [College website](#).

Note: In multi-registrant clinics, the medical director is responsible for ensuring compliance in the clinic or facility setting.

For more information, please refer to the [frequently asked questions](#).

Compliance with section 7-5 of the College Bylaws is confirmed by the Physician Enhancement Program (PPEP) during an office assessment.







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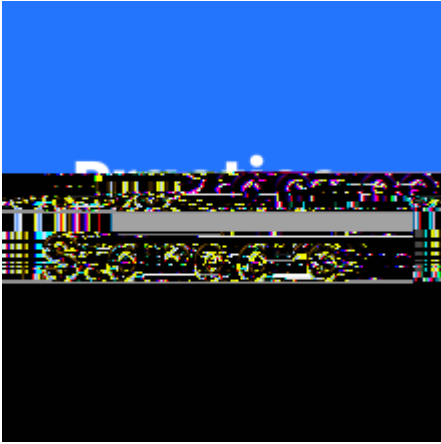
The College is participating in a National Registry of Physicians (NRP) facilitated by the Medical Council of Canada (MCC). This involves sending registrant data that the College collects to the MCC to display with similar data from 11 other Medical Regulatory Authorities (MRAs). The MCC received grant funding from the Government of Canada to develop the first nationally integrated source of data on physicians in Canada.

The NRP will function as a centralized information exchange and will allow for improved collaboration across jurisdictions in a shared vision to consolidate valuable physician data in a single location.

Information that will be contained in the NRP includes both personal and business information that the College currently maintains in its own register. Expanded use anticipated for the next phase of the NRP includes providing public access, however, the public will only have access to information that is currently available to them in provincial college registers according to privacy laws. Data will be securely stored by the MCC within Canada.

The NRP is expected to be launched in phases over several months depending on when MRAs are able to transfer data. More information will be made available in future issues of the *College Connector*.

Medical Assistance in Dying practice standard updates



The College recently published revisions to the [Medical Assistance in Dying practice standard](#) and the accompanying [frequently asked questions \(FAQ\)](#). While medical assistance in dying where a mental disorder is the sole underlying medical condition (MAiD MD-SUMC) was ultimately delayed, the standard was revised to add clarity to requirements from the Ministry of Health.

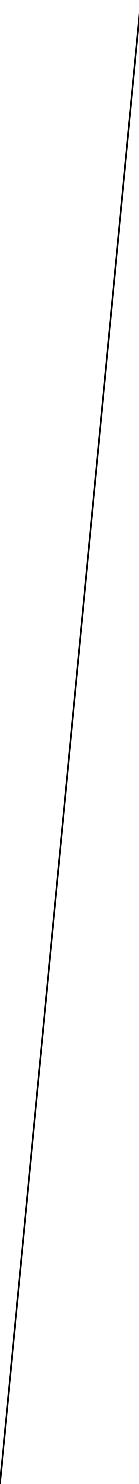
Following an internal review the following revisions to the practice standard were made:

- Removed reference to 2021 changes in the Criminal Code as this is now outdated
- Removed any references to MAiD MD-SUMC
- Updated terminology to include waiver of final consent (updated name of form)
- Incorporated temporary COVID-19 additions as permanent changes
- Added new expectations in response to recent concerns from the MAiD oversight unit

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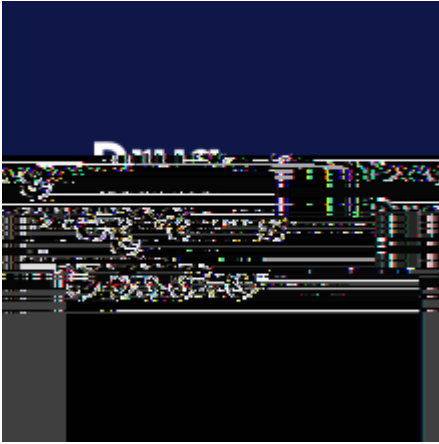
- Copies of Ministry of Health reporting forms must be in the medical record
- The medical records must be made available if requested by the Ministry of Health
- Revised reporting section to align with changes and feedback from the Ministry of Health

The FAQ document was similarly revised to match the updates to the standard and include new educational opportunities. The changes included:





Antimicrobial stewardship report available to registrants

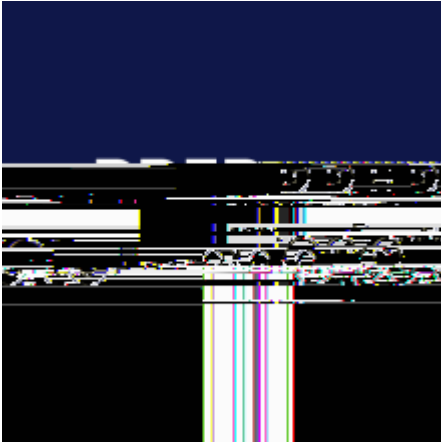


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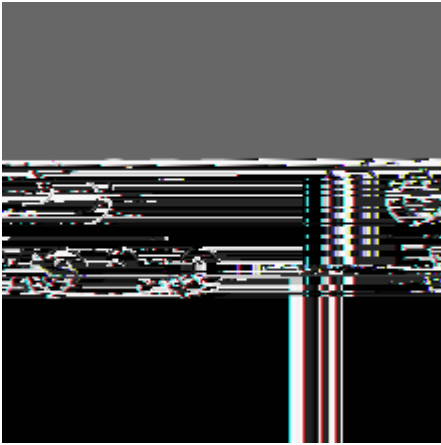
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CPD events



Medical Record Keeping for Physicians

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