



# New & Updated Standards of Practice

- Establishing and Ending the Physician-Patient Relationship
- Consent to Treatment
- Interdisciplinary Care & Delegation of Tasks
- Observing or Shadowing a Physician

The College is pleased to share with our Members and Stakeholders two (2) new and two (2) updated [Standards of Practice](#).

Earlier in 2024, the College sought feedback from CPSNL Licenced Physicians, NLHS, NLMA, CMPA, NLHRN, and Members of the Public. The College received over 250 responses total representing a wide range of demographic perspectives. This feedback was analyzed, and key items were identified and included in the creation or updating of: **Establishing and Ending the Physician-Patient Relationship**, **Consent to Treatment**, and **Interdisciplinary Care & Delegation of Tasks**. Concurrently, the College created a new Standard of Practice that aligns with other regulators, **Observing or Shadowing a Physician**.

Please click the links below and read each new or updated standard carefully:

Standard	Highlights
<a href="#">Establishing and Ending the Physician-Patient Relationship</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Patient Selection Process: exceptions to first-come, first-served approach</li><li>• Definition of establishing the Physician-Patient relationship</li><li>• Physician-patient relationship - natural/expected conclusion situations (i.e. “walk-in” care)</li><li>• Reasonable and unreasonable grounds to end the relationship (i.e. relationship breakdown, patient moved away, or reducing practice size)</li></ul>
<a href="#">Consent to Treatment</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Capacity and authority to provide consent including substitute decision makers and a minor’s capacity for consent</li><li>• Disputes and consensus</li><li>• Adequate information for informed consent (i.e. diagnosis, treatment, outcomes, risk, consequences of treatment refusal, alternative treatment, and trainee delegation)</li><li>• When express oral or written consent is required</li><li>• Consent documentation</li><li>• Delegating consent</li><li>• Medical emergencies and involuntary admission</li></ul>
<a href="#">Interdisciplinary Care &amp; Delegation of Tasks</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interdisciplinary team responsibility and accountability</li><li>• Physician delegation of tasks</li><li>• Medical Orders and Directives - written and verbal</li></ul>
<a href="#">Observing or Shadowing a Physician</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Observer registration and licensure requirements</li><li>• Approval to act as an Observer and scope</li><li>• Confidentiality</li><li>• Patient understanding and consent</li></ul>

The College would like to thank our Physicians and Stakeholders for their participation, your feedback is invaluable. Please email [communications@cpsnl.ca](mailto:communications@cpsnl.ca) if you have any questions or concerns.

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