



The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Prince Edward Island

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SECTION	COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE
POLICY NAME	Distribution of Information to the Public /Publication of Suspension or Disciplinary Decision
DESCRIPTION	<p>It is recognized that the College of Physicians and Surgeons of PEI (<i>the College</i>) will from time to time have information it wishes to convey to inform members of the public and /or for public protection.</p> <p>It is recognized that members of the media form a vital link in the communication network between the College and members of the general public.</p> <p>Communications between the College, the media and the general public shall usually be via the College website. News items will remain on the “News Releases” section of the website for a <u>minimum of 2 years</u>, unless directed otherwise by Council.</p> <p>The Registrar or the President shall respond to interview requests as deemed appropriate by the Registrar and the President.</p> <p>Any communication to the public with regard to members of the profession:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Will be fair and objective. b. Will not disclose the name of a patient unless: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i.) a patient has given expressed consent to do so, or ii.) a patient has first gone to the media identifying him or herself. <p>The name of the member of the College will not be released to the media except:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. With expressed consent of the physician, or b. When a finding of Incapacity, Unfitness or Professional Misconduct has been made, or c. As required by the Medical Act of Prince Edward Island.

When a member has been found *incapacitated, unfit or guilty of Professional Misconduct* the finding and penalty shall be made public by being posted on the College website except when the finding is due to personal health reasons of the member, in which case public disclosure shall only take place should public good exceed the need for personal privacy as determined by the Registrar.

When a member's licence or practice has been altered, restricted, suspended or revoked during the course of a discipline hearing, the fact of the change is made public but not the reason.

When a member's licence to practice has been altered, restricted, suspended or revoked as a result of a discipline hearing, the fact of the change and the reason is made public.

Voluntary restrictions shall be made public by the physician within 7 days so that the medical community and the public are made aware of the limitations on the physician's practice. Such public disclosure shall be communicated directly by Registered Mail, fax or letter to the following, with acceptable proof of delivery to the College office:

- a.) Medical Society
- b.) All PEI Hospitals
- c.) Medicare
- d.) Minister of Health
- e.) Department of Health
- f.) Health PEI
- g.) PEI Pharmacy Board
- h.) Any other jurisdiction where a licence is held by the physician

Any positive finding or change to a licence to practice as the result of a discipline hearing, shall be made public by the College and shall be communicated directly by fax or letter to the following:

- a.) Medical Society
- b.) All PEI Hospitals
- c.) Medicare
- d.) Minister of Health
- e.) Department of Health
- f.) Health PEI
- g.) PEI Pharmacy Board
- h.) All Canadian Medical Regulatory Authorities
- i.) The Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> j.) Medical Council of Canada k.) College of Family Physicians of Canada l.) Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada m.) Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) when appropriate n.) International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA) when appropriate o.) CanLII Databases (Canadian Legal Information Institute) p.) Any other Regulatory Authority/jurisdiction the Registrar advises when appropriate. <p>The proceedings of the Complaints and Registration Committee and the Fitness to Practice Committee shall be closed to the public.</p> <p>The proceedings of the Board of Inquiry shall be open to the public unless public interest or personal protection requires privacy, in which case all or part of the proceeding may be closed by the Panel.</p>
<p>APPLICABLE LEGISLATION</p>	<p>MEDICAL ACT, PART IV DISCIPLINE; Section 36.1(b),Section 32.7</p>
<p>APPROVED BY:</p>	<p>Council of the College of Physicians & Surgeons of PEI January 2014</p>
<p>REVIEWED:</p>	<p>revised Nov 6, 2013</p>