At Present the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) allows doctors to step aside when a patient requests a treatment or procedure that is in conflict with a doctor's moral or religious beliefs. Many doctors who object to treatment for reasons of conscience also decline to refer patients for these treatments for the same reason.

This appears to be a reasonable accommodation to protect a doctor's freedom of conscience.

CPSO in a proposed new draft document states: "Where physicians are unwilling to provide certain elements of care due to their moral or religious beliefs, an effective referral to another health care provider must be provided to the patient."

I object to CPSO new requirements and support the complete freedom of conscience for physicians without referrals.