14 February 2015

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario
80 College St.
Toronto, Ontario
M5G 2E2

Subject: Draft Policy "Professional Obligations and Human Rights"

It has been brought to my attention that your draft policy, Sections 8, 10 and 11, proposes that doctors be required to refer patients to other doctors if they, in good conscience, cannot perform the procedure requested by the patient. I find this proposal to be abhorrent, and an unacceptable intrusion into the freedom of any person to act in accordance with the moral principals that he or she holds.

If I, as a lay person, perceives something to be immoral, I would be guilty of a moral offence if I aided someone to commit it. Your proposal places physicians in an untenable position. You are proposing to usurp the doctor's own right to act according to his conscience. This is wrong.

With respect, I request that you revisit your proposal that physicians be required to act against their conscience.