February 9, 2015

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

Dear Members of the Consultations Committee,
Re: Draft Policy "Professional Obligations and Human Rights".

We are deeply concerned with your proposed draft policy. We are fortunate to live in a country that promotes democracy, both for ourselves and for other people around the world. Therefore, how can we now take the rights of doctors and nurses away? Freedom of conscience is a fundamental right. Our professionals entered their careers to provide health care, not death care. We should not coerce physicians into violating their consciences. They too have to live with their decisions, and if their morals, integrity or faith is in jeopardy, they will suffer.

We strongly encourage you to revise the draft to include a clear defence of the right of freedom of conscience for all physicians.