



THE  
COLLEGE  
OF  
PHYSICIANS  
AND  
SURGEONS  
OF  
ONTARIO

# Joint Consultation

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*Preliminary Consultation Survey Report*

Introduction

The College’s released three policies for consultation between September and November 2018. The purpose of this consultation was to assess whether these policies are useful to physicians and members of the public, identify whether there are other resources that physicians and members of the public consult for guidance on these issues, and to determine whether there is value in the College providing guidance on these issues.

Invitations to participate in the consultation were sent to stakeholders, including the CPSO membership, and a notice was posted on the CPSO website and social media platforms.

Feedback was collected via regular mail, email, an online discussion forum, and an online survey, all of which are posted online.

**This report summarizes only the stakeholder feedback that was received through the online survey.**

Interpretation Notes:

- 1. Participation in this survey was voluntary. As such, no attempt has been made to ensure that the sample of participants is “representative” of any sub-population.
- 2. Open-ended questions the stakeholder feedback has been summarized to capture the key themes and ideas and is not reported verbatim.

Policies Included in the Joint Consultation

Anabolic Steroids, Substances and Methods Prohibited in Sport ..... 4

Female Genital Cutting (Mutilation) ..... 8

Ultrasound for Non-Medical Reasons..... 10

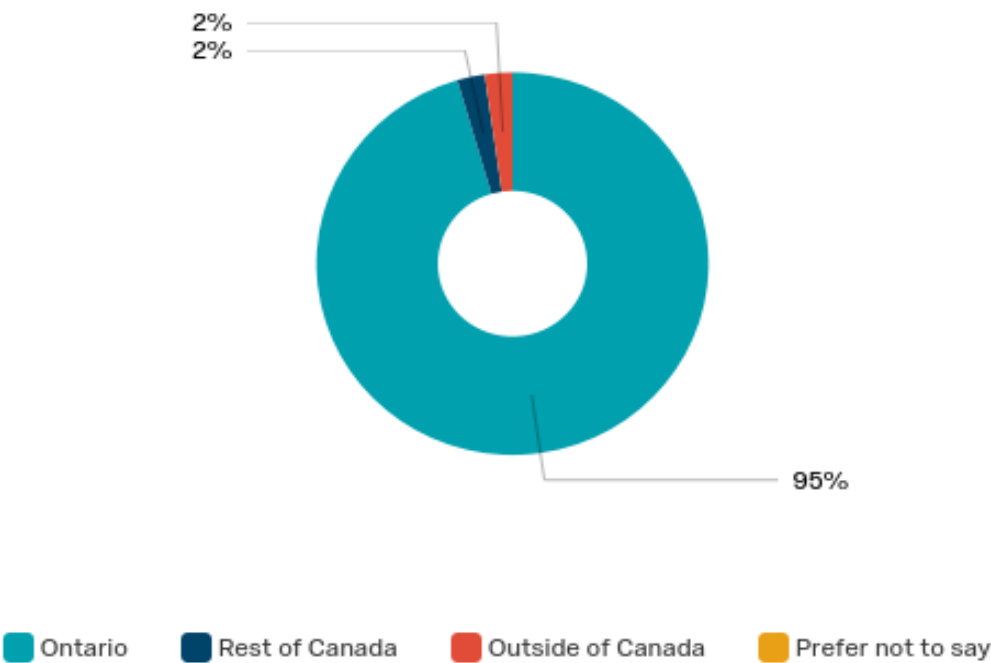
# Joint Consultation

## Preliminary Consultation – Summary Report

### Demographic Questions

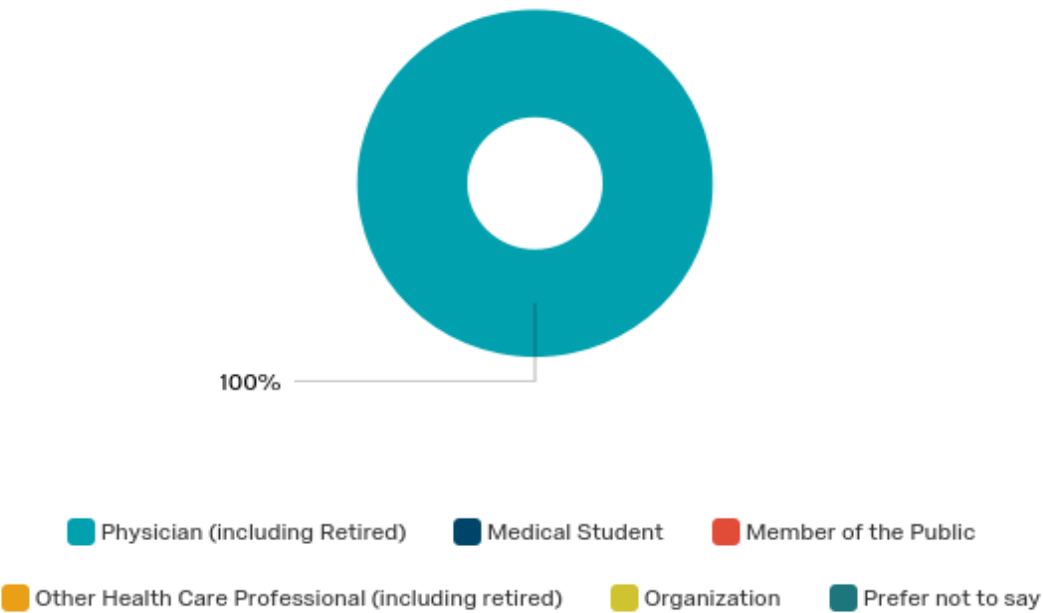
#### Question 1:

Do you live in...?



Total Respondents 44

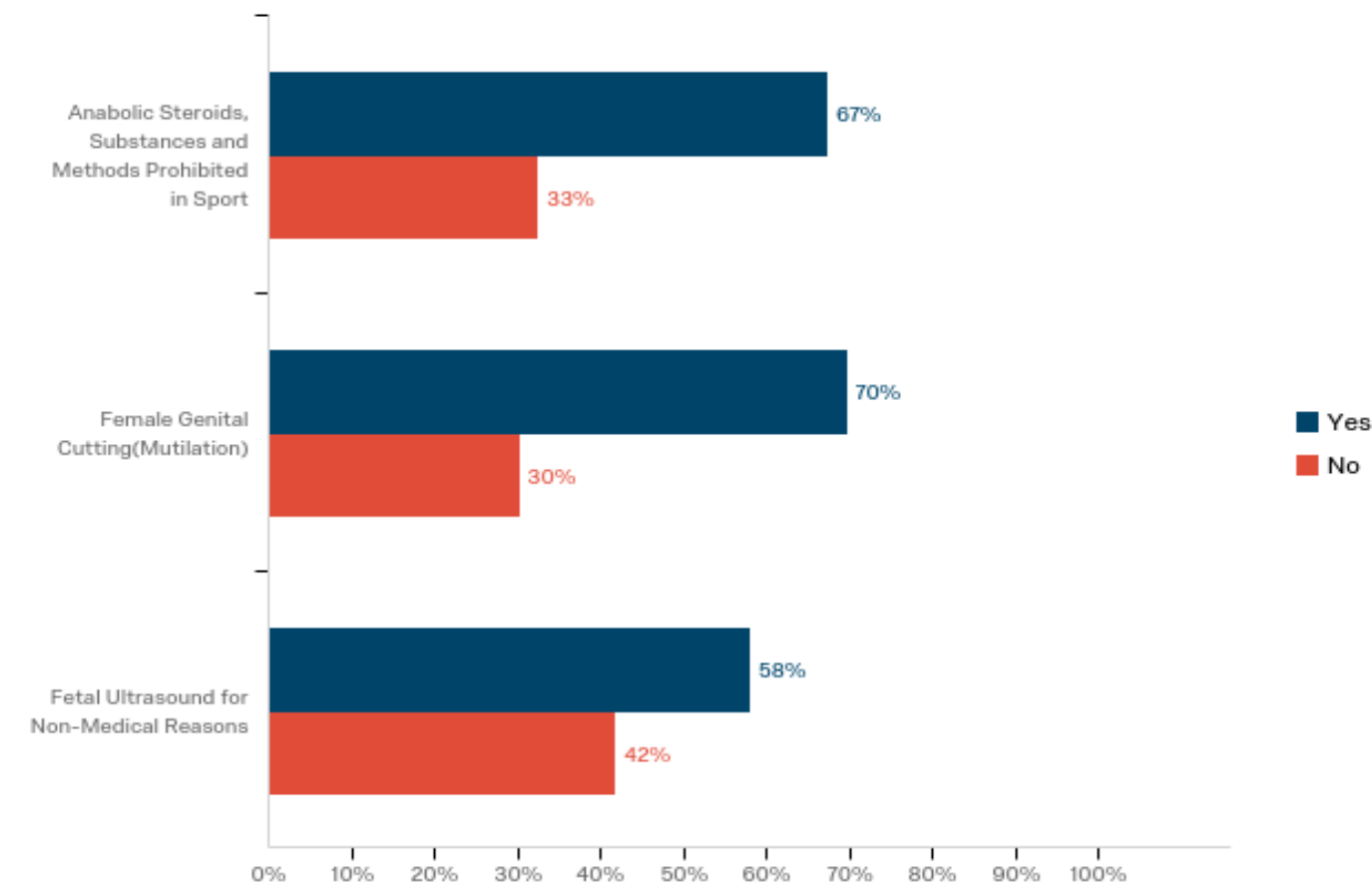
Question 2:  
Are you a....?



Total Respondents 44

Question 3:

Prior to today, were you aware that the College had the following policies?

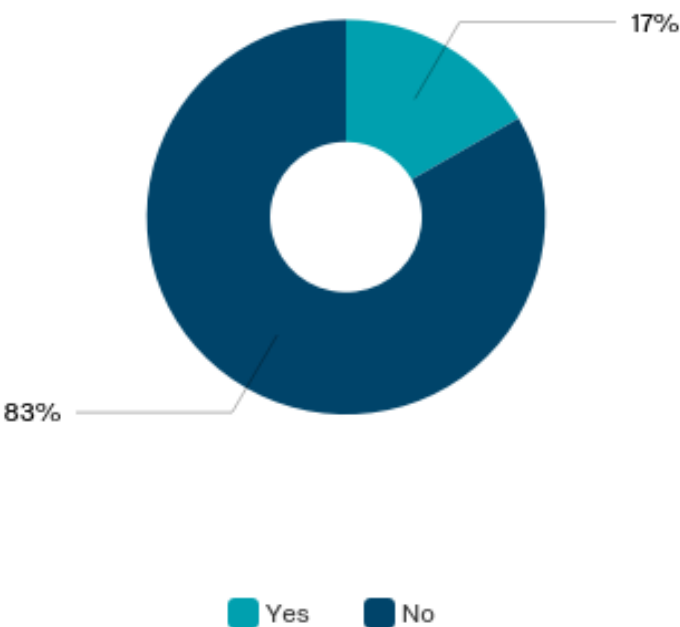


Total Respondents 43

Anabolic Steroids, Substances and Methods Prohibited in Sport<sup>1</sup>

Question 4:

Before today have you read, consulted or otherwise used the Anabolic Steroids, Substances and Methods Prohibited in Sport policy?



Total Respondents 42

Question 4b (Optional): Open-ended

If so, please indicate your reason for reading, consulting or otherwise using the policy.

Respondents provided insight into their use of the policy, and identified the following reasons:

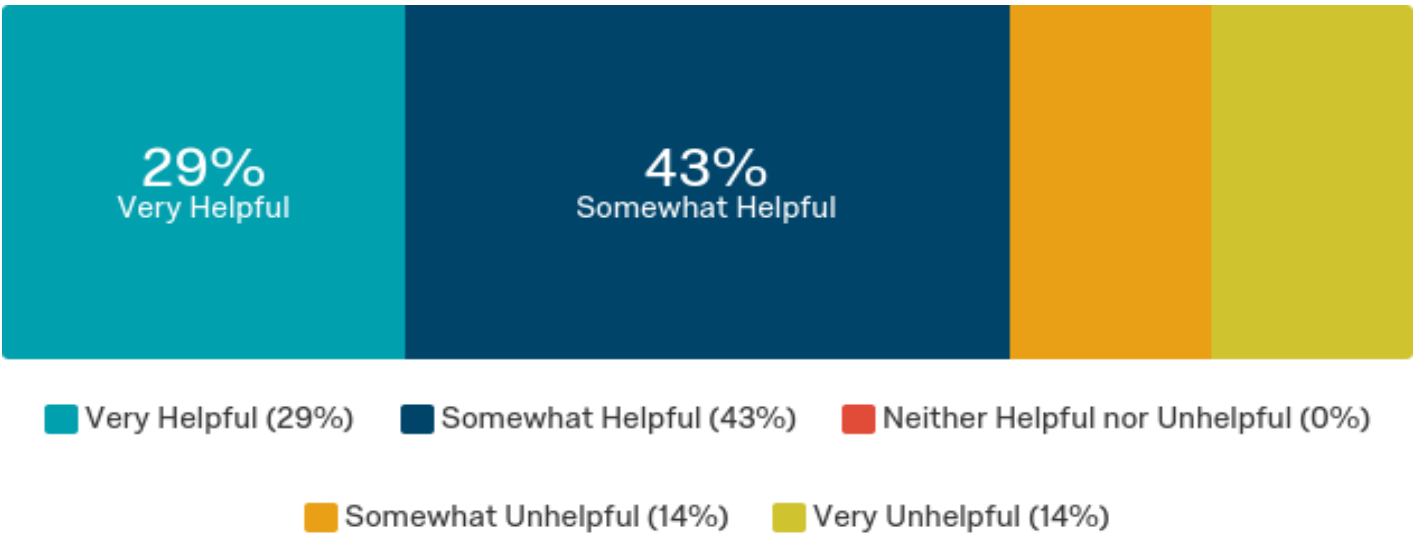
- To understand the College’s expectations as they relate to prescribing steroids in a clinical environment.
- Improve knowledge of the issue of Anabolic Steroids, Substances and Methods Prohibited in Sport.

Total Respondents 5

<sup>1</sup> Participants were only asked supplementary questions about the *Anabolic Steroids, Substances and Methods Prohibited in Sport* policy if they indicated they had read the policy.

**Question 5:**

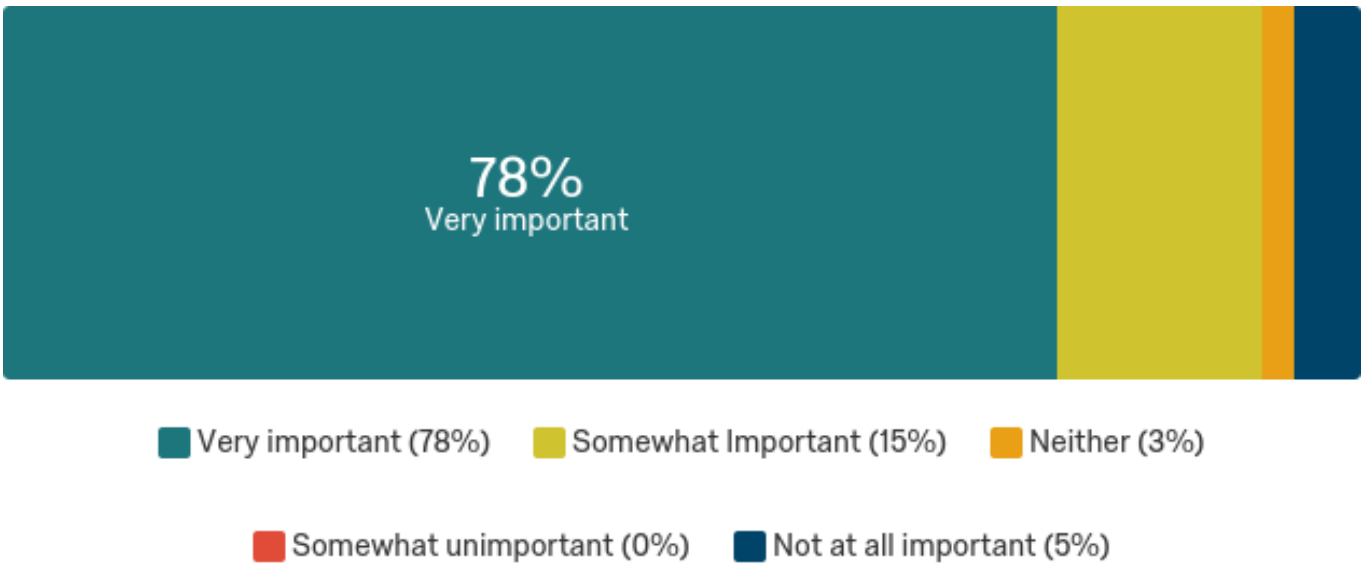
To what extent did you find the guidance in the Anabolic Steroids, Substances and Methods Prohibited in Sport policy helpful?



Total Respondents 7

**Question 6:**

How important is it for the College to set out expectations for physicians about Anabolic Steroids, Substances and Methods Prohibited in Sport?



Total Respondents 40

### Question 7: Open-ended

**Optional: Which resources do you consult when seeking guidance on Anabolic Steroids, Substances and Methods Prohibited in Sport?**

Respondents highlighted the following as important resources pertaining to *Anabolic Steroids, Substances and Methods Prohibited in Sport*:

- World Anti-Doping Agency and Canadian Anti-Doping Program.
- Some respondents indicated that this is not an issue they encounter in practice
- Some indicated they would use Google, Medscape or Medical Journals

Total Respondents 14

### Question 8: Open-ended

**Do you have any other comments, related to the value and helpfulness of the Anabolic Steroids, Substances and Methods Prohibited in Sport policy you would like to share?**

Respondents provided the following feedback on the value and helpfulness of the policy:

- Respondents agreed with prohibiting the use of prohibited substances and methods in sport,
- Respondents were divided; some felt the policy was helpful and provided guidance to those who do not encounter the issue often, while others felt that the policy was overly restrictive.
- One respondent felt that the policy verges on regulating other profession's (i.e. athletes).

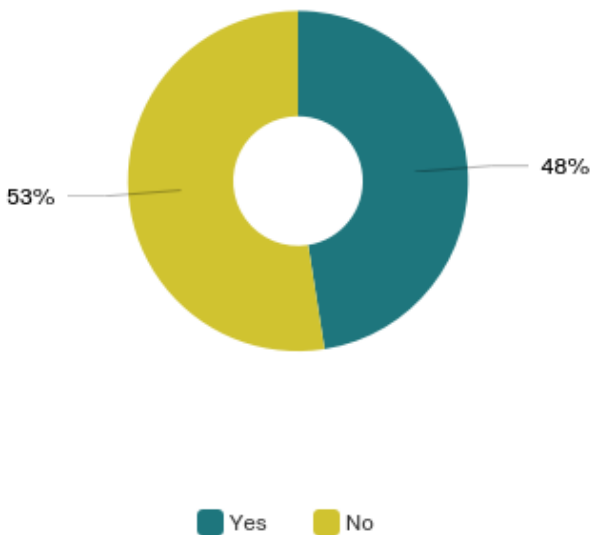
Total Respondents 18



# Female Genital Cutting (Mutilation)<sup>2</sup>

## Question 4:

Before today have you read, consulted or otherwise used the Female Genital Cutting (Mutilation) policy?



Total Respondents 40

## Question 4b: Open-ended

Optional: If so, please indicate your reason for reading, consulting or otherwise using the policy.

Respondents provided insight into their use of the policy, and identified the following reasons:

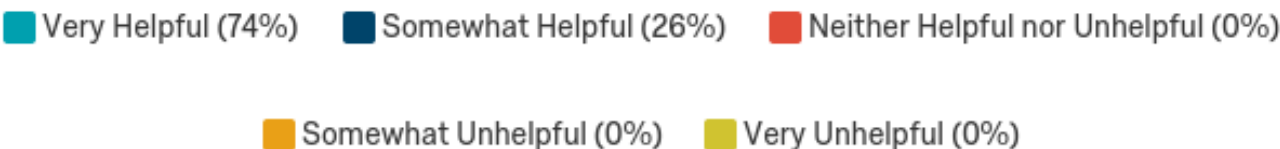
- To understand the College’s expectations as they relate to Female Genital Cutting (Mutilation) in a clinical environment.
- To identify the relevance to patient care.
- As reference for research projects or public presentations.

Total Respondents 12

<sup>2</sup> Participants were only asked supplementary questions about the *Female Genital Cutting (Mutilation)* policy if they indicated they had read the policy.

**Question 5:**

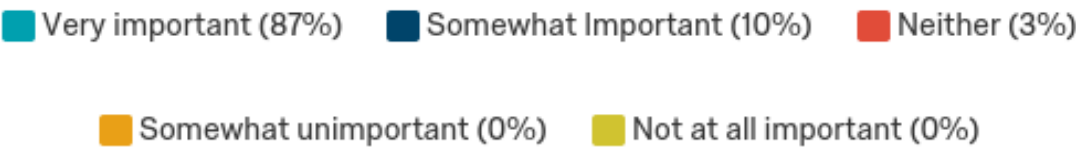
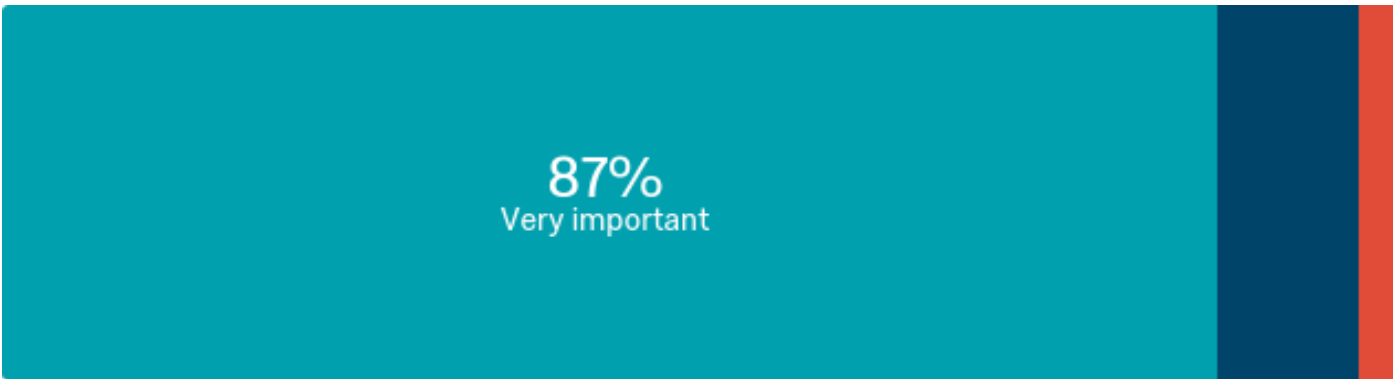
To what extent did you find the guidance in the Female Genital Cutting (Mutilation) policy helpful?



Total Respondents 19

**Question 6:**

How important is it for the College to set out expectations for physicians about Female Genital Cutting (Mutilation)?



Total Respondents 39

### Question 7: Open-ended

**Optional: Which resources do you consult when seeking guidance on Female Genital Cutting (Mutilation)?**

Respondents highlighted the following as important resources pertaining to *Female Genital Cutting (Mutilation)*:

- Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Canada.
- Respondents indicated that they would refer to the CPSO policy for guidance.
- One indicated that since this is a Criminal Offence, there is another system to deal with it.

Total Respondents 15

### Question 8: Open-ended

**Do you have any other comments, related to the value and helpfulness of the Female Genital Cutting (Mutilation) policy you would like to share?**

Respondents provided the following feedback on the value and helpfulness of the policy:

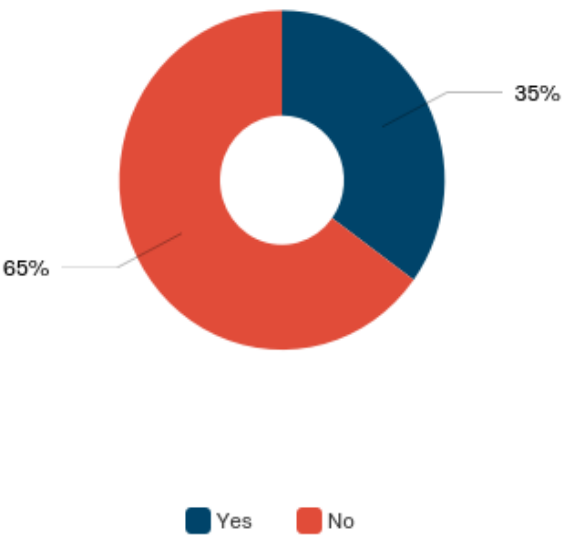
- Respondents noted that it is important for the College to send a message to physicians that this is not an acceptable practice, that it is illegal and it violates the human rights of women and girls.
- The majority of comments indicated support of the position articulated in the policy.

Total Respondents 15

# Ultrasound for Non-Medical Reasons<sup>3</sup>

## Question 4:

Before today have you read, consulted or otherwise used the Fetal Ultrasound for Non-Medical Reasons policy?



Total Respondents 40

## Question 4a: Open-ended

Optional: If so, please indicate your reason for reading, consulting or otherwise using the policy.

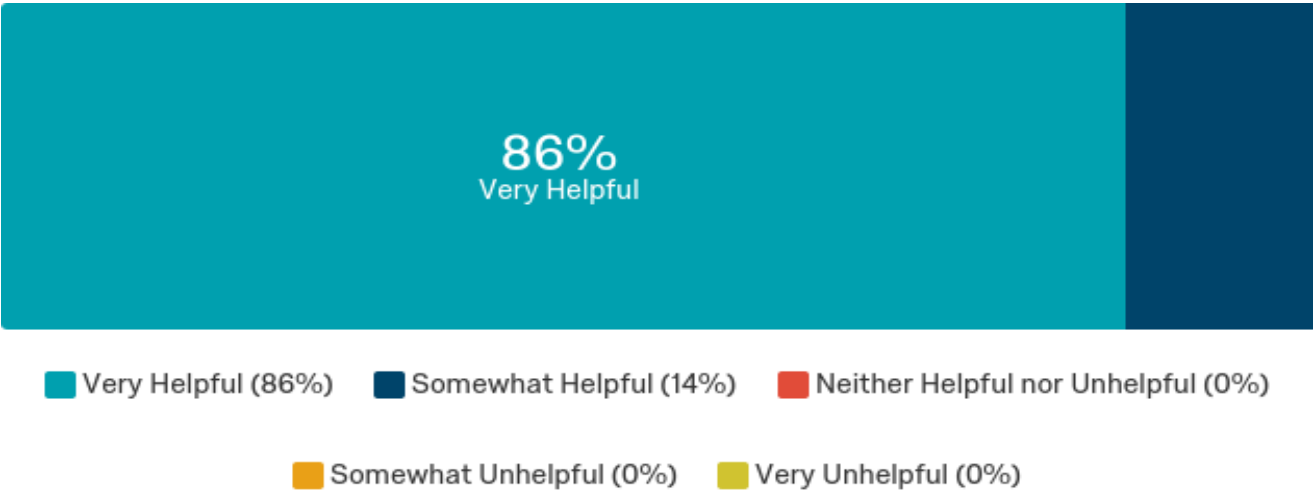
- Respondents indicated they referred to the policy to be aware of the expectations.
- As research for an ethics class in medical school.

Total Respondents 5

<sup>3</sup> Participants were only asked supplementary questions about the *Ultrasound for Non-Medical Reasons* policy if they indicated they had read the policy.

Question 5:

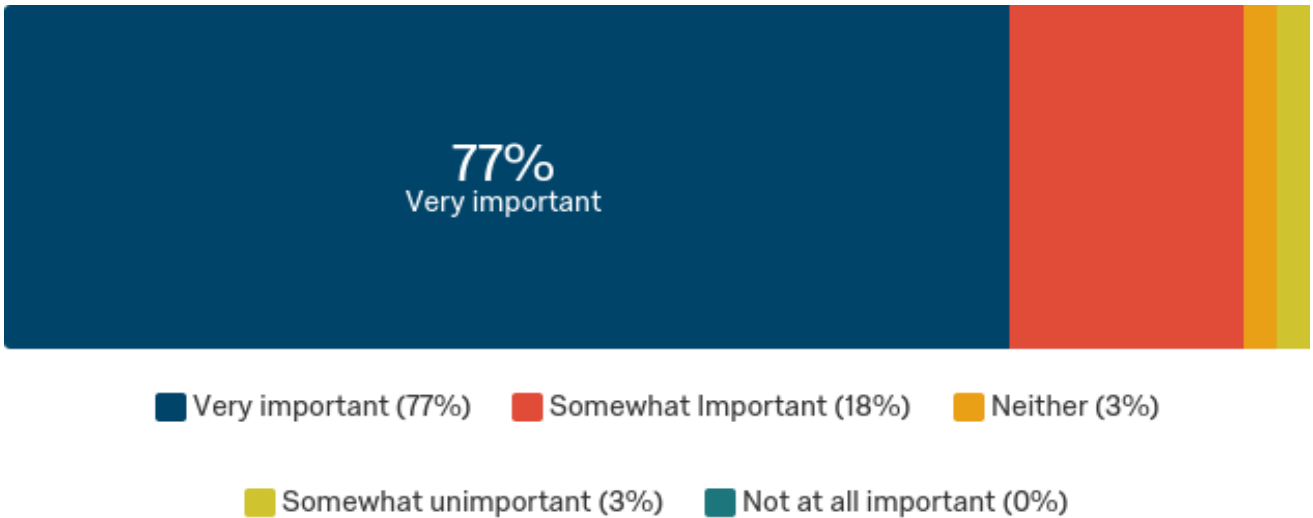
To what extent did you find the guidance in the Fetal Ultrasound for Non-Medical Reasons policy helpful?



Total Respondents 14

Question 6:

How important is it for the College to set out expectations for physicians about Fetal Ultrasound for Non-Medical Reasons?



Total Respondents 39

**Question 7: Open-ended**

**Optional: Which resources do you consult when seeking guidance on Fetal Ultrasound for Non-Medical Reasons?**

Respondents highlighted the following as important resources pertaining to *Fetal Ultrasound for Non-Medical Reasons*:

- Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Canada.
- Respondents indicated that they would refer to the CPSO policy for guidance.

Total Respondents 14

**Question 8: Open-ended**

**Do you have any other comments, related to the value and helpfulness of the Fetal Ultrasound for Non-Medical Reasons policy you would like to share?**

Respondents provided the following feedback on the value and helpfulness of the policy:

- Respondents noted that it is important for physicians to receive guidance on this issue.
- Some respondents felt that it was important for the College to set guidance on this issue, and the policy acts as a rationale for physicians to deny access to “entertainment” ultrasounds.
- Some respondents noted that expectant parents have access to alternative avenues to determine the sex of the fetus (e.g. non-medical ultrasound clinics).

Total Respondents 19