

CPSO Third Party Medical Reports
Statement from the OMA Section on Plastic Surgery

The OMA Section on Plastic Surgery is grateful for the opportunity to provide its opinions and suggestions with respect to the CPSO draft document ‘Third Party Medical’ and the accompanying Advice to the Profession document. As a section, we support the efforts that the College is making to clarify the process surrounding third party medical reports and independent medical examinations.

In regard to the documents themselves, there are a few points that we feel require further clarification or amendment.

- 4. (line 36): The wording states that when requested or ordered, treating physicians must provide testimony about current or former patients. The word “requested” should be removed if this is a policy that physicians “must” comply with, because a request is very different from an order. The way that this is currently worded, lawyers or a third party could make an inappropriate request, but the physician would be in violation of this policy. The only thing that should force a physician to testify is a court order.
- 22. (line 152): This point does not add to the clarity or accuracy of third party reports and actually exposes physicians to liability should another party deem a comment to be ‘unnecessary’. This should be reworded to read “Physicians should not make any unrelated or unnecessary comments...” to avoid this potential situation.
- 29. (line 202) How has the College selected these time frames and why are they different for an IME and for a third-party report. We would suggest that both time frames be extended to 60 days to prevent increased administrative burden on physicians.
- 34. (line 225) This policy seems contradictory to point 33. If physicians must comply with court orders, that is reasonable, but what about in the situation where the patient refuses to consent. This should not place the physician in a precarious position between the patient and the court. This should be clarified.
- 40. (line 290): What is the duration of time that records must be kept for?