

Ontario Medical Association Submission

CPSO's Proposed Regulatory Amendments to Regulate
Physician Assistants

August 2023



The OMA appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the CPSO's proposed regulatory amendments to regulate Physician Assistants (PAs). OMA policy and legal staff have conducted a review of the draft regulatory amendments and consulted broadly with membership through several channels.

OMA Position

The OMA has supported the involvement of physician assistants in the Ontario health-care system for many years. We value the contribution of physician assistants to increase access to health services across the province. The OMA also supports the regulation of physician assistants through the CPSO. Self-regulation is important to ensuring safe, quality care within a clear accountability framework.

It is the OMA's position that the existing delegation model, where physicians temporarily transfer their authority to physician assistants and physicians remain accountable and responsible for patient care is well established and works effectively. We are pleased to see that the draft regulations are anchored within this existing delegation framework.

Comments on draft regulations

Upon review of the draft regulations and consultation backgrounder, we feel that the regulatory amendments are well drafted and that the expectation and requirements for physicians and PAs under the enabling regulations are clear and appropriate. We do not have any concerns or suggestions for improvement at this time.

The OMA appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the College's proposed regulatory amendments to regulate PAs before they are finalized. Please contact us if you have questions or require additional feedback.