
Feedback re Proposed Regulatory Amendments to Regulate Physician Assistants

As a retired Emergency Physician who had the privilege of working for some 5 years with a military-trained Physician Assistant (PA) in the Emergency Department of [REDACTED] Hospital, I strongly support this initiative.

The knowledge and skill displayed by our PA was a tremendous benefit to our patients and went a long way toward enhancing the quality of care we were able to deliver during a period of intense pressure and demands on the Emergency team.

Comments:

Transition

9.3 The following apply for the first 24 months after the day this Regulation comes into force,

Paragraph (1) of subsection 9.1. does not apply in respect of an application for a certificate of registration authorizing practice as a physician assistant where:

1. (a) the applicant successfully completed the Canadian Armed Forces Health Training Centre Physician Assistant Program or the Ontario Physician Assistant Integration Program by the Centre for the Evaluation of Health Professionals Educated Abroad; and
2. (b) the applicant is able to satisfy the Registrar or a panel of the Registration Committee that the applicant engaged in practice in Canada within the scope of a physician assistant during the two-year period that immediately preceded the date that the applicant submitted their application.

There is no need for this section to apply only in the first 24 months following the Regulation coming into force. Subsections 1. (a) and 2. (b) ensure that the necessary training has been completed and that the applicant's status is current.

I do not think that the pressures we see today on the Emergency Departments in Ontario will be lessened in 2 years; if anything, they will increase. I might suggest that the first sentence of Section 9.3 be removed.

1. **Physician Assistants - Emergency Circumstances Practice**

I assume that s. 9.4 (1) 3 would include the programs outlined in s. 9.3

I applaud the Ontario government and the CPSO for this initiative!

Yours sincerely,