

Dear College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario – Out of Hospital Premises Inspection Program,

RE: CPSO Out-Of-Hospital Standards

I, [name] “I stand in solidarity with my local abortion clinics and feel that the Draft OHP Policy Standards should seek further input from community abortion providers, in order to maintain the companion abortion document to the Standards. As a member of the public, I have concerns that (check ALL that apply):

Requiring patients to have accompaniment at the time of discharge after having a surgical abortion with mild sedation jeopardizes my right to confidentiality and privacy, may put myself and other patients at risk for increased harm from domestic violence, and can pose an additional barrier to accessing abortion appointments.

Using a patient's BMI alone as a potential limitation for accessing surgical abortion care in the community is not evidence-based and can limit access to timely abortion care. Using BMI alone as a barrier to accessing care is a form of medical discrimination.

Requiring patients to be fasting before their surgical abortions with mild sedation can result in patients feeling worse before their care has even begun. Limiting access to surgical abortion care on the requirement of fasting is not evidence-based.”

2. Do you have additional comments you'd like to share about how these barriers might impact you or someone you know? Please share your story: _____