



## Collaboration in Patient Care

**Standards of Practice** of the Yukon Medical Council (“the Council”) are the minimum standards of professional behavior and ethical conduct expected of all physicians registered in the Yukon. Standards of Practice will be referenced in the management of complaints and in discipline.

- (1) When multiple healthcare providers are caring for a patient or group of patients, a physician must collaborate with other physicians, regulated healthcare providers, and other members of the care team in the care of those patients.
- (2) A physician must treat other healthcare providers with dignity and respect.
- (3) A physician must communicate effectively with other members of the healthcare team.
- (4) When working in a team setting, a physician must document clearly his or her contribution to the patient’s care and ensure they participate in hand-over care to ensure continuity.
- (5) When collaborating in the care of a patient, a physician must explain the physician’s role and responsibilities to the patient.
- (6) Where a joint or shared record is maintained for professional services to a patient, entries made by the physician must be identifiable.
- (7) A referral by a physician to another health professional must only occur when there is a reasonable expectation of a health benefit to the patient arising from the referral.
- (8) Although it is permissible to enter into a contractual arrangement for cost-sharing of office or clinic expenses, a physician must not enter into a legal partnership arrangement with a non-physician.
- (9) A physician who discharges a patient from a hospital or healthcare facility with the expectation of follow-up care by another physician outside that facility must:
  - (a) prepare a legible summary of active medical problems and treatment plans at discharge for the accepting physician before the follow-up care appointment is expected to occur; and
  - (b) if the follow-up care is required within two (2) weeks of discharge, notify the accepting physician directly to facilitate the patient’s follow-up care appointment and to transfer necessary medical information.
- (10) A physician who transfers care to another physician within the same or different hospital or healthcare facility must ensure the accepting physician has the necessary clinical information to assume care, including a summary of active medical problems and a treatment plan for the patient.
- (11) Notwithstanding subsections (9) and (10), the physician is not responsible for delays in the transcription and delivery of the discharge summary that are not under his or her control.

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**Terms used in the Standards of Practice:**

- *Physician* means any person who is registered or who is required to be registered under the Medical Profession Act
- *Must* refers to a mandatory requirement.
- *May* means that the physician may exercise reasonable discretion.
- *Patient* includes, where applicable, the patient’s legal guardian or substitute decision maker.