



## Performing Non-Surgical Cosmetics Procedures

Physicians wishing to perform non-surgical cosmetics procedures must abide by the College's **Changing Scope of Practice Policy**. The purpose of this section is to outline what the College's expectations are for physicians who wish to add non-surgical cosmetics procedures to their practice, in order to outline training requirements and to provide you with some tools to help you document any training you have undertaken.

### Scope of Practice – What are the requirements?

In accordance with the College's registration regulation, a physician must only practise in the areas of medicine in which s/he is educated and experienced. When any physician wants to practise in a new area, the College must ensure that s/he has the education and experience necessary to do so. To do this, we look at a physician's training and qualifications. In some cases, physicians are required to go through a formal "change of scope" process which includes an assessment. In other cases, where the addition of procedures is not a significant change from previous practice, we rely on the physician to ensure s/he has appropriate training and qualifications.

Our foremost concern is to ensure patient safety. While many non-surgical procedures are of minimal risk to patients, there are others that have the potential for greater risk. We also recognize that some patients may be dissatisfied with the outcome of procedures, even in the absence of permanent harm. The risk of both permanent and temporary harm may be increased in the absence of adequate training and experience.

High risk non-surgical procedures include the injection or insertion of a non absorbable product, or any injection that promotes a physiologic response such as collagen formation by the host. If you intend to perform any of these techniques as part of your **non-surgical** cosmetics practice, **you must submit an application for Changing Scope of Practice to the College and complete the Change of Scope process, which will include an assessment of your practice.**

However, if you intend only to perform other non-surgical cosmetic procedures, and you have completed specific training in these procedures as described below, you need not necessarily go through a College-directed assessment of your abilities. This is not to suggest that one can start incorporating non-surgical cosmetics into one's practice with minimal training. For example a simple demonstration of injecting a temporary filler by an industry representative would not constitute adequate training.

## Training Requirements

In respect of procedural skills training, there are two main components: Pre-Patient Training and Training in the Clinical Setting<sup>1</sup>. Pre-Patient Training involves acquiring basic cognitive knowledge about the procedure, its indications, contraindications and management of potential complications. It also includes the acquisition of enabling skills and then performance of the skill in simulated, non-patient environment.

Training in the clinical setting involves a stepwise approach to skill acquisition, with observation of a skilled practitioner performing the procedure on a live patient, followed by guided performance with assistance and ultimately independent performance of the skill in a supervised capacity.<sup>1,2</sup> Throughout this process feedback and guidance from the skilled practitioner is crucial.

## Documentation

To assist you in ensuring that you have adequate training as described above to perform these procedures, the College has developed an electronic form: **Personal Record of Training in Non-Surgical Cosmetics Procedures** [LINK]. Physicians are encouraged to complete this form online, print out and file for your records. It is available through the link above or by going to the College's website at [www.cpsso.on.ca](http://www.cpsso.on.ca) under CPSO Members > Resources > Personal Record of Training in Non-Surgical Cosmetic Procedures. **You do not need to submit these records to the College.** Should the need arise to assess your practice as a result of a random or targeted assessment, the College may ask to see documentation of your training. These simple records will make it easy for you to do so.

We trust that this information is helpful to you as your practice evolves. Please contact **Diane Clark** at 416-967-2600 or 1-800-268-7096, extension 320 if you have any questions.