

Approval of Supervisors for College-Directed Supervision

Section:	Registration		
Applicable Legislation:			
Approved by: Registration Policy Committee Council	Approval Date: September 3, 2020 October 9, 2020	Reviewer: Physician Performance	Review Date: September 2024

Preamble

Physicians on either a Defined licence or Restricted licence are assigned to a level of supervision according to the College policy *Supervision Levels for College-Directed Supervision*¹. The requirements for each level of supervision is delineated in the *College-Directed Supervision Framework – Responsibilities and Supervision by Level*.² The Supervisor acts as an Agent of the College and must be approved by the College.

Section 40 (2c) of the Medical Practitioners Regulations³ requires that a proposed Supervisor for an applicant of a Defined licence have a Supervisor who meets the requirements in Section 45(3). The same criteria and approval process will be applied for Supervisors required for physicians on a Restricted licence who require College-Directed Supervision.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set out the criteria for the approval of Supervisors for College-Directed Supervision.

Policy

1. The Supervisor must practise in Nova Scotia and hold one of the following licence types:
 - a. A Full licence;
 - b. An Academic licence;
 - c. A Defined licence, under Sponsor-only Oversight.

2. The Supervisor must practice in the same geographic area as the supervised physician, unless approved by the Registrar.
3. The Supervisor must have a similar scope of practice as the supervised physician.
4. The Sponsor of a Defined licence physician is responsible for proposing an appropriate Supervisor to the College, in writing, taking into account the following:
 - The level of supervision required;
 - The Supervisor's registration history and number of years in practice;
 - The Supervisor's experience and practice history;
 - The Supervisor's willingness, availability and geographic proximity to the Defined licence physician;
 - Any apparent conflict of interest; and
 - Other relevant College policy and guidance.
5. The College will internally review all proposed supervisors, taking into account the criteria listed in 1 to 4 above, as well as the proposed Supervisor's:
 - Professional conduct (investigations and compliance) history;
 - Assessment history, unless protected under the *Medical Act*;
 - Past relationships and interactions with the College;
 - Past performance as a Supervisor, if any; and
 - Any other issues related to Character, Competence and Capacity.⁴
6. In the case of a Defined licence physician, following an internal review, the College will inform the Sponsor whether a proposed Supervisor has been accepted or declined.
7. In the interest of preserving the proposed Supervisor's confidentiality, when a proposed Supervisor is declined by the College, no further explanation will be provided.

Resources

1. [Supervision Levels for College-Directed Supervision](#)
2. [College-Directed Supervision Framework – Responsibilities and Supervision by Level](#)
3. [Medical Practitioners Regulations](#)
4. [Capacity, Competence and Character to Safely Practice Medicine](#)