



# Medical Assistance in Dying

Collaboration to support high standards of professional practice

# Disclaimer #1

- Medical assistance in dying (MAiD) is a lawful service in Canada (subject to certain limitations)
- College has an obligation to set ethical and professional standards for medical practice
- Neither for nor against MAiD
- Duty is to act in the public interest



# Disclaimer #2

- “Medical assistance in dying” is not a favoured term, but it is in C-14
- Although Carter used the phrase “physician assistance in dying,” the government broadened the term to recognize the role played by other regulated health professionals such as nurse practitioners and pharmacists

# Historical perspective

- February 6, 2015
  - Supreme Court of Canada in *Carter v. Canada* established assistance in dying as a charter right for those experiencing intolerable suffering
- FMRAC working group
  - In anticipation of expectations to set ethical and professional standards a principles document was developed
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC
  - Established ethical and professional standards for the profession in advance of eventual royal assent of C-14

# Professional standards

- Developed with input from key provincial partners:
  - Registrants
  - Ministry of Health
  - Health authorities
  - Health professional colleges (nurses, pharmacists)
  - BC Coroners Service

# Revised standards

- With subsequent royal assent of C-14 practice standards were revised to reflect the new law
- Modest revisions brought in as provincial orders/regulations were passed

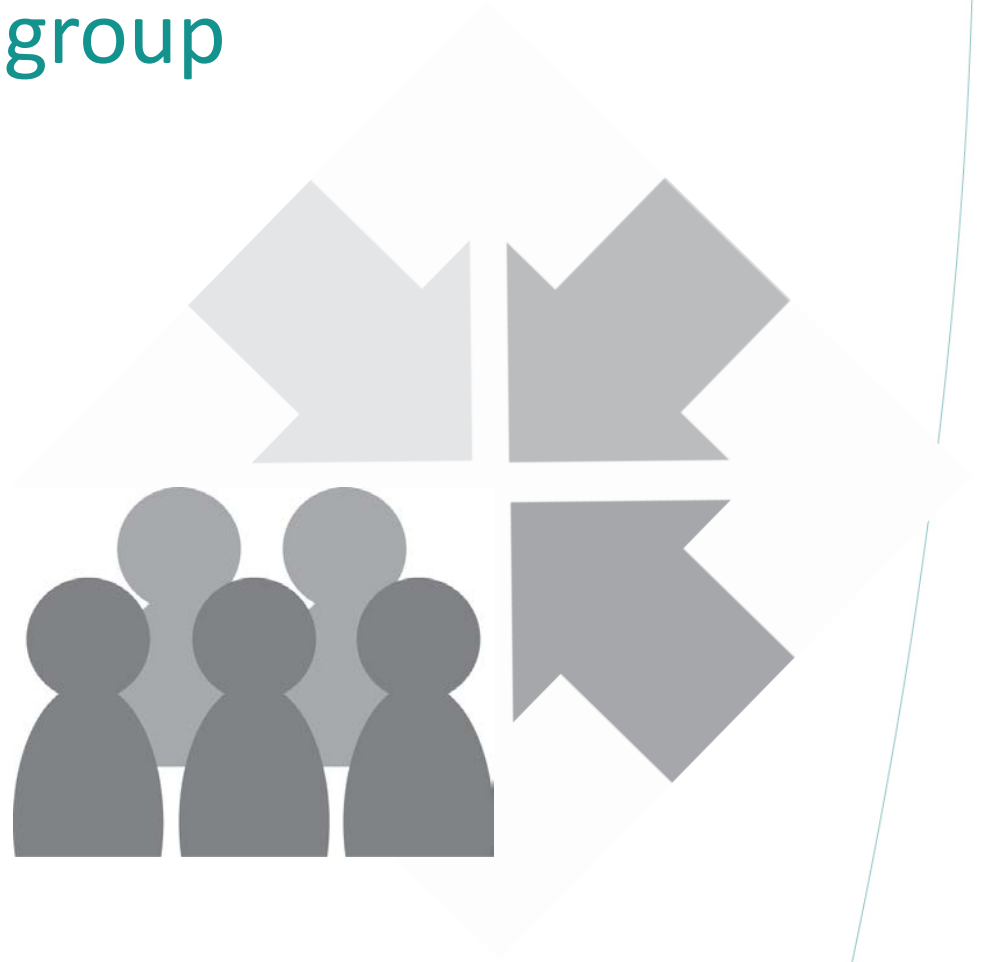


# Alignment

- Revisions to regulations for the practice of medicine and nursing strengthen the standard setting authority for both colleges
- Profession specific standards for nursing, medicine and pharmacist practice
- Agreement to adopt mandatory use of provincial forms for medical assistance in dying

# Provincial working group

- Agreement amongst Ministry of Health, Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, the health authorities, and the relevant colleges to adopt a consistent province-wide approach to the provision of MAiD





# Provincial forms

- Support collaborative practice amongst the care team
- Support compliance with existing legislation
- Support oversight, monitoring, and quality assurance functions
- Special authority coverage for medications



# Thank you

- Questions?
- [www.cpsbc.ca](http://www.cpsbc.ca)

 [@cpsbc\\_ca](https://twitter.com/cpsbc_ca)

