



Moral or Religious Beliefs Affecting Medical 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) A physician must communicate clearly and promptly about any treatments or procedures the physician chooses not to provide because of his or her moral or religious beliefs.
- (2) A physician must not withhold information about the existence of a procedure or treatment because providing that procedure or giving advice about it conflicts with their moral or religious beliefs.
- (3) A physician must not promote their own moral or religious beliefs when interacting with patients.
- (4) When moral or religious beliefs prevent a physician from providing or offering access to information about a legally available medical or surgical treatment or service, that physician must ensure that the patient who seeks such advice or medical care is offered timely access to another physician or resource that will provide accurate information about all available medical options.

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.