



Currency of Practice

The applicant will provide evidence of currency of practice in accordance with the regulatory bylaws.

Physicians entering directly into practice must demonstrate that they have been engaged in independent practice within the past three (3) years and have practiced a minimum of five (5) months in the past five (5) years.

Physicians who intend to apply to the SIPPA program for assessment must demonstrate that they have been engaged in independent practice within the past three (3) years prior to making the application.

Observerships and some forms of volunteer or research activity are not considered active, independent practice.

“Active independent family physician” means the physician has been *practicing independently as the patient’s Most Responsible Physician*.

This means the physician is authorized to diagnose, plan, implement, manage, and follow up with plan for treatment for a patient as well as order medications and diagnostic procedures.

Arrangements that do not qualify include:

- volunteer positions if the physician is not the most responsible physician; or,
- assistant work; or
- observerships and preceptorships

Physicians who plan to return to clinical medical practice after an **absence of three years or more**, or who plan to make a significant change in scope of practice, must first notify the College and complete an assessment and retraining satisfactory to the Registrar before doing so.