Completing Discharge Summaries

Standards of Practice of the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta (“the College”) are the minimum standards of professional behavior and ethical conduct expected of all regulated members registered in Alberta. Standards of Practice are enforceable under the Health Professions Act and will be referenced in the management of complaints and in discipline hearings. The College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta also provides Advice to the Profession to support the implementation of the Standards of Practice.

(1) The physician responsible for the care of a patient in a hospital or healthcare facility must complete a discharge summary in a timely manner consistent with the policies of the institution.

Terms used in the Standards of Practice:

• Physician means any person who is registered or who is required to be registered as a member of this College. The College regulates physicians, surgeons and osteopaths.
• 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.