



September 17, 2013

Hugh MacLeod  
Chief Executive Officer  
Canadian Patient Safety Institute  
Suite 1414, 10235  
101 Street, Edmonton, AB T5J 3G1

Dear Mr. MacLeod:

The Canadian Association of Physician Assistants (CAPA) would like to endorse the Canadian Patient Safety Institute's (CPSI) *2011 Canadian Disclosure Guidelines*. Representing Physician Assistants (PAs) and knowing firsthand the challenges that exist with patient disclosure, the Association understands how important it is to have a health care system where health professionals engage openly with patients. CAPA also recognizes that promoting psychological safety for these individuals, while promoting continuous learning and improvement in health care organizations is extremely important. CAPA feels that this can be accomplished through implementation of the guiding principles included within the *2011 Canadian Disclosure Guidelines*.

It is CAPA's belief that patients are entitled to receive information about themselves and about their medical condition or illness, including the potential risks associated with health care delivery. Communication between health care providers and patients should be clear, open and honest. The *2011 Canadian Disclosure Guidelines* effectively supports this communication between patient and health providers. CAPA recommends that health care facilities and institutions employing PAs should incorporate the guiding principles included in these guidelines, specifically; patient-centered care, patient autonomy, patient safety, leadership, disclosure, honesty, and transparency into their organizational policies and processes.

It is CAPA's opinion that by supporting patients emotionally and physically, as well as providing health care providers with the support they require academically and emotionally, together with like-minded organizations, we can begin to develop an improved health care system. This system would not only put patients at the forefront but will also reinforce transparency and focus on communication and trust, which is what all Canadians deserve.

CAPA will be posting a link to the *Canadian Disclosure Guidelines* on our website as well as notifying the membership of the association's endorsement of this document.

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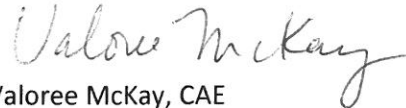
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CAPA is pleased to have had the opportunity to submit feedback on such an important topic. The Association is optimistic regarding the recommendations set out in the *2011 Canadian Disclosure Guidelines* and hopes that Canadian health institutions and facilities will take the suggestions provided from the Canadian Patient Safety Institute earnestly and begin to implement these guiding principles within their respective health settings.

Sincerely,



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