

## Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Standards Working Group Terms of Reference

### Mandate

The IPAC Standards Working Group was established to develop standards and guidance for Infection Prevention and Control for BCCOHP. The working group will take into consideration existing IPAC standards from the legacy colleges, including guidance for the COVID-19 Pandemic. The working group is accountable to the Standards and Guidance Committee.

### Composition

The working group consists of members appointed by the board, and must include at least:

- 1 subject matter expert with experience in infection control and epidemiology
- 1 subject matter expert with experience in infection control and epidemiology or other healthcare practitioner familiar with current IPAC
- 3 oral health professionals' familiar with current IPAC protocols from diverse areas of practice, such as private practice, public health, residential care, research, and education

### Composition Matrix

Members of the IPAC Standards Working Group should demonstrate one or more of the following competencies:

- **Knowledge and experience**  
Working knowledge and experience in IPAC protocols and procedures, infectious disease or infectious disease epidemiology
- **Research and analytical skills**  
Ability to conduct research and analyze findings
- **Writing and editing skills**  
Ability to support staff with writing and editing of the standards and guidance
- **Risk assessment**  
Ability to assess and mitigate risk to patients
- **Systems thinking**  
Ability to consider how IPAC standards work within the dental practice and BCCOHP

- **Standard development**  
Experience developing standards or other similar documentation

## Authority

The Standards and Guidance Committee has the authority to develop standards and guidance for the profession in BCCOHP Bylaw Part 4. In the committee's terms of reference, it establishes expert working groups to draft the standards in accordance with the Standards and Guidance Development Process.

## Duties and Responsibilities

The working group will:

- a) Conduct research and analysis of existing IPAC guidelines;
- b) Develop standards and guidance for Infection Prevention and Controls using the Standards and Guidance Development Process;
  - i. Draft standards aligned with BCCOHP's standards and guidance framework
  - ii. Draft IPAC standards using BCCOHP's standard development criteria
  - iii. Draft guidance for how to meet the approved standards using the development criteria
  - iv. Collaborate with the Professional and Ethical Standards WG and any other applicable groups when required
  - v. Consult with external expertise, if required
- c) Provide the Standards and Guidance Committee with draft standards and guidance for review and approval;
- d) Make any revisions to the draft standards and guidance following committee review and consultation.

## Terms and meetings

The working group's term is for one year and may be reduced or extended, if required.

The IPAC Standards Working Group will meet as many times as necessary to meet the objectives of the working group.