

Provincial Credentialing and Privileging (C&P) System

GLOSSARY

A common language and some key terms have been developed **with input from expert panels, which included practitioners** across the province. These key terms include:

- **AppCentral** is the software application used to submit an appointment or reappointment application using the Internet
- **Board** is the governing body within a BC Health Authority
- **Cactus** is a system to maintain and track credentialing information for all members of the medical staff
- **Committee Manager** is the software application in Cactus which is used by designated medical leaders to facilitate review of credentialing and privileging applications
- **Context specific privileges** take into account what medical services and procedures a facility can support
- **Core privileges** are those activities that a recently graduated member of the discipline can reasonably be expected to perform.
- **Credentialing** identifies the kind of medical procedures and services a practitioner is qualified for and assesses a practitioner's education, experience, training, and past and current history of practice. Credentialing informs privileging.
- **Criteria-based privileging** is based on training and performance standards established by regulatory colleges, expectations of educational institutions, and input from guiding practitioners and governing bodies on what clinical activities are appropriate for different levels of training and experience. It provides a consistent framework to reflect on one's scope of practice.
- **Current experience** is the level of experience believed to allow a practitioner to remain skilled in an activity. These are typically expressed in hours or number of cases.
 - Current experience is not a substitute for competency. It does not reflect a practitioner's ability to do something successfully or efficiently.
 - The assessment of current experience may prompt a supportive conversation about how a skill will be, or is, maintained. It does not automatically disqualify the practitioner from performing the activity.
- **Grandparenting** guarantees that privileges held before introduction of the new system will continue to be held until a practitioner's first reappointment.

- **Head of Department or Division** is a medical staff member responsible for the operation of a department or division.
- **License Manager*** is a module of the Cactus system. The License Manager monitors updates to medical licensing information for practitioners affiliated with the following professional colleges: Physicians, Dental Surgeons, Midwives, and Registered Nurses. Updates are received from the Provider Registry System, a provincial system that receives information directly from the colleges.
**Formerly known as the License Expiration Monitoring Module (LEMM)*
- **Licensing** is a requirement under the Health Professions Act. The License is issued by a regulatory college and is the foundation for the other three components: credentials, privileges and performance enhancement.
- **Locum Tenens** is a practitioner appointed to the Medical Staff for the purposes of replacing an existing Medical Staff member or a vacancy for a limited time.
- **MQI Office** is a single management group responsible for the ongoing maintenance and enhancement of the credentialing and privileging system and provincial privileging dictionaries.
- **Medical Staff** includes physicians, dentists, midwives or nurse practitioners that have been granted privileges by the Board to practice in the facilities and programs within a BC Health Authority.
- **Non-core privileges** are activities which are outside of the core privileges, that have required further training or demonstration of skill.
- **Performance Enhancement** is a framework for providing feedback and support relating to clinical practice approach and outcomes. Performance enhancement has both quality assurance and quality improvement functions.
- **Practitioner** is a physician, dentist, midwife or nurse practitioner who is a member of the medical staff of a BC Health Authority and is a duly qualified licensee in good standing with their regulatory college.
- **Privileges** are defined as site-specific permissions to engage in a clinical activity.
- **Privileging** is the granting of facility-specific permits to practice clinical activities. The Hospital Act Regulation requires it. The BC Health Authorities are responsible for credentialing and privileging practitioners.
- **Provider** is a term used by Cactus to refer to a practitioner.
- **Temporary Privilege** is granted to a member of the medical staff for a specified period of time in order that he/she may provide a specific service.
- **Threshold** is the minimum volume of patient encounters, cases, procedures, or minimum length of time practicing the core privileges.