



Goal #5, Assumes Professional Responsibilities, In Progress

Goal #5

[Edit](#) [Delete](#)

Competency:

Performance:

My Goal:

To ensure my practice standards align with with COA Professional Boundaries standards to help protect patients from sexual abuse and misconduct when engaging with a regulated health professional. I will understand the standards as well as the governing legislation and apply the knowledge to my practice standards. By August 2022, my practice standards will reflect a clear understanding of professional boundaries and uphold those standards and enforce appropriate legislation to protect patients.

Specifically addressing:

- 1.1.2 Integrate the Code of Ethics into professional practice as a basis for all decisions and actions.
- 1.1.4 Recognize and manage professional boundaries.
- 1.1.5 Refer any incompetent, illegal or unethical conduct by colleagues (regulated and non-regulated) or other health personnel to the appropriate authority.
- 1.1.6 Recognize and manage ethical situations.

My Action Plan

ADD ACTIVITY/COURSE

In order to achieve a goal, an action plan needs to be in place, and then updated as you make progress:

- Click the icon below to enter (or edit) the description or details of your plan.
- Also click the button on the right to add activities into your plan. Add as many activities as you need to achieve your goal.
- Once you have added an activity, you may click the icon that appears next to it to edit it, mark it as "Completed" (once you have done so), or upload any document related to that activity.

Description:



Read and review the COA Standards of Practice, specifically standard 8 by January 2022 (self)
 Read and review the HPA, specifically any section that references incidences of sexual abuse and/or misconduct by February 2022 (self)
 Complete the COA's education module on moodle "Protecting Patients from Sexual Abuse and Misconduct" by March 2022 (online)
 Assess/compare my current practice to the standards the current standards and legislation by May 2022 (self)
 Implement necessary changes to my practice to ensure I am meeting the standards and legislation by July 2022 (self)

Activity/Course: Venue:

Start: End: Activity Completed: Documents:

Anticipated Completion:



Reflection Notes:

I set aside time to read the Standards of Practice document. The standards clearly define sexual abuse and misconduct and the professional boundaries that exist between a patient and their optician. Some questions I had after reading it: 1. Where can I find more information about my responsibility to report if I witness or become aware of another practitioner who may have violated professional boundaries when interacting with a patient? 2. How can I help a patient who reports to me that they have been sexually abused by another practitioner? 3. What role does the College play in assisting registrants or patients involved in an allegation of sexual abuse or misconduct? For application to my practice. I think I need to consider how my procedures ensure I am upholding standard 8 and assuring patient safety. Our office should have policies that outline when and if practitioners are alone with patients and if we are alone with patients what we are doing to ensure their safety, security and comfort. For example, we could standardize procedures for procuring consent to be alone with a patient, touch a patient, etc.

Activity/Course: Venue:

Start: End: Activity Completed: Documents:

Anticipated Completion:



Reflection Notes:

I set aside time to read and review any sections of the HPA that are related to sexual abuse and misconduct. The legislation can be difficult to navigate because it is so formal so I am glad we have the standards of practice to supplement the legislation and provide me more guidance in my practice. The sections I reviewed included: 1. Section 1(1)(x.1) and (nn.1-nn.3) 2. Section 4(1.1) 3. Section 16(1.1) 4. Section 45(3-4) 5. Section 55(2.1) 6. Section 57(1.1) 7. Section 59(7) 8. Section 81.1 9. Section 82(1.1-1.2) 10. Section 96.2 11. Section 127.2 12. Section 133.1 13. Section 135.7 14. Section 135.9 15. Section 135.92(2) 16. Section 135.92 A lot of the legislation is about the College's responsibility to uphold a system that ensures patient protection but it also dictates the consequences of practitioner violations and requirements for professional boundaries between patients and practitioners and mandatory reporting by practitioners. I will need to consider this legislation as I update my own practices and propose office-wide policies and procedures.

Activity/Course: Venue:

Start: End: Activity Completed: Documents:

Anticipated Completion:



Reflection Notes:

This course helped demystify all of the information I had read by putting the standards and legislation into real-life scenarios and walking me through what could happen, what I can do to protect patients, what patient's can do if they are mis-treated, etc.

Activity/Course: Venue:

Start: End: Activity Completed: Documents:

Anticipated Completion:



Reflection Notes:

I took time to reflect on my current practice policies and procedures to consider where I needed to make changes to ensure patient protection for sexual abuse and misconduct. Moving forward, I will uphold these standards and legislation by obtaining verbal consent from patients before performing any services. Specifically, I will obtain consent to touch a patient by explaining where I will be touching them and why the touch is necessary, and to be alone with them in a closed room by explaining why the closed room is necessary to perform the service. I will assist patients as needed if I witness sexual abuse or misconduct, or if a patient reports any incidences of abuse or misconduct to me by reporting to the appropriate regulatory body and directing the patient to the College for assistance. I will propose updates office-wide policies regarding patient boundaries, consent and trauma-informed training related to sexual abuse and misconduct in order to protect our patients.

My Reflection

EDIT MY REFLECTION

After completing the activities in your plan, you will reflect on your learning and how it contributed to the achievement of your goal. Click the button on the right to summarize your experience and reflect on your learning.

Understanding the standards and legislation that govern my practice as an optician ensures that my practice meets the standard of care that ensures patients receive safe, competent, and ethical care from me. I found it really useful to combine self-directed studying with the online course because I was able to work at my own pace but felt the course addressed most of the questions that came up during my self-study. I think it could work even better if the self-study was combined with some group work with other regulated opticians or other health professionals to have other perspectives and interpretations of the standards and legislation included in my learning.

GOAL COMPLETED