



TYPE	Quality Assurance
NAME	Peer & Practice Assessment - Photography Policy
IMPLEMENTATION DATE	February 2, 2023

INTENT

This policy outlines the permissibility of the use of photographs during Peer & Practice Assessments as administered under the Quality Assurance Program.

BACKGROUND

The *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991*, mandates that each Denturist registered with the College participate in a Quality Assurance Program that includes a Peer and Practice Assessment component.

During the course of a Peer and Practice Assessment, a Peer and Practice Assessor is assigned to assess a member's practice location or perform a modified assessment as required. The College was advised that in order to ensure the assessments are as impartial, transparent, and objective as possible, the use of photographs may be used in specific circumstances.

Photographs provide an objective observation of the practice environment and does not rely on a Peer and Practice Assessor's subjective description and judgement.

THE POLICY

1. Photographs are only to be used when a Peer and Practice Assessor reasonably believes there are:
 - a. Lapses or concerns regarding infection prevention and control practices (routine practice or additional precautions). e.g., sterilization practices, record keeping, environmental cleaning of laboratory and/or operatory areas.

- b. Health and safety concerns (e.g., fire hazards)
 - c. Privacy concerns (e.g., set-up of waiting/reception area)
- 2. Peer and Practice Assessors must advise the member prior to taking any photos and communicate why they are being taken.
 - a. The Peer and Practice Assessor must document in the assessment report the reasons for photographs to be taken and if the member refuses to consent to the photographs being taken.
- 3. Patients, clinic staff, or any confidential information should not be visible in the photographs.
- 4. Photographs should clearly capture the concerns of the Peer and Practice Assessor and should accompany a thorough description of the concerns.
- 5. Once photographs are provided to the College with the assessment report, the Peer and Practice Assessor must securely destroy them.

RELATED LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS

[General Regulation 206/94](#)

[Denturism Act, 1991](#)

[Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991](#)

REVISION CONTROL

Date	Revision	Effective
July 7, 2017	Initial approval as Guideline	July 7, 2017
February 2023	Revision as a Policy	