

CONSENT TO PROVIDE SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT SERVICES

Members must obtain the patient/client's consent¹, as defined in the *Health Care Consent Act (1996)*, for all screening and assessment services.

BACKGROUND

The *Health Care Consent Act*, (HCCA), requires members to obtain the patient/client's consent to provide treatment. The HCCA also allows service providers to choose to have the HCCA apply to other services such as assessment and screening.

In the past, CASLPO has advised members that it is prudent and preferred practice to obtain patient/client consent to conduct a screening or assessment. **CASLPO has now determined that members must obtain patient/client consent for all screening and assessment services.**

REQUIREMENTS

1. When providing screening and assessment services, members must obtain the patient/client's valid and informed consent, as defined in the *Health Care Consent Act (1996)* for any screening and/or assessment.
2. Under the *Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004 (PHIPA)*, members must obtain the patient/client's knowledgeable consent to the collection, use, and/or disclosing of any personal health information during service provision, including but not limited to screening, assessment and treatment.
3. Members must document every consent received, as specified in CASLPO's current Proposed Regulation for Records.

REFERENCES

College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario, *Obtaining Consent for Services: A Guide for Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists*, 2007.

College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario, *Proposed Regulation for Records*, Language Pathologists of Ontario, 2007.

¹ *patient/client* includes the substitute decision maker, where appropriate.

Health Care Consent Act, 1996.

Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004.

GLOSSARY

Screening: Use of pass/refer measures by an audiologist or speech-language pathologist, in accordance with the member's scope of practice, to identify persons who may have a hearing, communication and/or swallowing disorder/delay. Screening is used only to determine the need for a speech-language pathology assessment and/or an audiological assessment. Screening may be conducted by a member or supportive personnel. Interpretation and communication of the results of a screening are limited to advising the individual on whether or not there may be a need for a speech-language pathology assessment and/or an audiological assessment and must not be used for treatment planning.

Assessment: Use of formal and/or informal measures by an audiologist or speech-language pathologist, in accordance with the member's scope of practice, to determine a patient/client's functioning in a variety of areas of functional communication and/or swallowing or hearing, resulting in specific treatment recommendations.