



POSITION STATEMENT

CONSENT TO PROVIDE SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT SERVICES

APPROVED 2007

REVISED May 2014

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

BACKGROUND

The [Health Care Consent Act, 1996](#), (HCCA), requires members to obtain the patient's/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.

CASLPO has determined that members must obtain patient/client consent for all screening and assessment services.

REQUIREMENTS

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

REFERENCES

[Obtaining Consent for Services](#)

[Proposed Regulation for Records](#)

[Health Care Consent Act, 1996.](#)

[Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004.](#)

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

GLOSSARY

Screening:

Screening is a process where a member applies certain measures that are designed to identify patients who may have a hearing, balance, communication, swallowing or similar disorder[s], for the sole purpose of determining the patient's need for a speech-language pathology assessment, an audiological assessment, or both. This does not include:

- Inadvertently noticing possible hearing, balance, communication, swallowing or similar disorder[s], or
- Considering information that is shared about an individual's possible hearing, balance, communication, swallowing or similar disorder[s], for the purpose of providing general educational information and/or recommending a referral for a speech-language pathology screening or assessment, an audiological screening or assessment, or both.

Screening may be conducted by a member or support personnel. Interpretation and communication of the results are made by the member. Screening results are limited to advising the patient/client/SDM on whether or not there is a need for a speech-language pathology assessment and/or an audiology assessment. Results 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 intervention recommendations.