

RETRAINING OF INACTIVE PHYSICIANS

BACKGROUND

A physician who wishes to re-enter medical practice after a prolonged absence from providing patient care must take appropriate steps to ensure that he/she is competent to practice.

SCOPE:

This Statement applies to all physicians who are planning to re-enter medical practice after:

- a. having been absent from clinical practice for a continuous period of 3 years
- b. not having practiced for more than 5 months in a period of 5 years.

Absence from medical practice may be general (i.e. absent from all clinical activity) or may be specific (i.e. the physician has excluded one or more specific fields of clinical practice either through restriction of practice or through practice in a specific setting).

A physician who has not performed an advanced elective procedure for more than 3 years is considered to be inactive for the purposes of obtaining or renewing hospital privileges for that procedure.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. An inactive physician must undergo an appropriate assessment and, where required, relevant retraining before returning to practice.
2. Retraining arises from the absence of current practice experience and/or knowledge even though there has been no evidence of deficiencies in practice. If evidence of deficiencies exists, the matter will be referred to the Investigation Committee for individual evaluation.
3. Retraining must be based on two factors:
 - a. The candidate's specific practice plans.
 - b. An evaluation of the candidate's current knowledge and skills.To be relevant, the retraining must address those deficiencies in *b.* which are relevant to *a.*
4. A physician who wishes to re-enter practice must file with the College a written description of his/her specific practice plans.
5. The retraining must be according to one of the following options:
 - a. Method A: The candidate may undergo an assessment acceptable to the College, followed by such retraining as is recommended by the assessor. On satisfactory completion the candidate may obtain licensure as set forth below.



- b. Method B: The candidate may present to the College a specific retraining proposal of not less than eight weeks. If the proposal is acceptable to the College, on satisfactory completion, the candidate may obtain licensure as set forth below.
 - c. Method C: The candidate may present to the College a specific mentorship proposal. If the proposal is acceptable to the College, on satisfactory completion, the candidate may obtain licensure as set forth below.
6. Upon satisfactory completion of retraining, the College will issue licensure, defined in accordance with the practice plan and with Regulation 25/03.

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A statement is a formal position of the College with which members shall comply.