



Standard 7: Safety and Infection Control

Applies to Opticianry

The College of Health and Care Professionals of BC was created on June 28, 2024 through the amalgamation of seven health regulatory colleges:

- College of Dietitians of British Columbia
- College of Occupational Therapists of British Columbia
- College of Optometrists of British Columbia
- College of Opticians of British Columbia
- College of Physical Therapists of British Columbia
- College of Psychologists of British Columbia
- College of Speech and Hearing Health Professionals of British Columbia

All current requirements for standards of clinical and ethical practice issued by the seven colleges remain in place upon amalgamation.

This document was created by the College of Opticians of British Columbia and will be updated to reflect the amalgamation.

Standard 7: Safety and Infection Control

Related Standards of Practice

- Standard 2: Evidence-Informed Practice
- Standard 4: Cultural Safety, Cultural Humility, and Anti-Racism
- Standard 16: Risk Management and Quality Improvement

Description

The optician takes reasonable and appropriate measures to minimize the risk of contamination and transmission of infectious agents within their professional practice and practice environment to ensure the health and safety of clients, other regulated health care professionals, students, and unregulated staff.

Expected Outcome

The client can expect that their optician has sterilized or sanitized all products and instruments used in client care, and that relevant safety plans and protocols will be followed throughout service delivery.

Criteria

- 7.1 Adhere to all federal, provincial, and municipal requirements (including health and safety, as per the [Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety](#) and [WorkSafeBC](#)) and ensure the practice environment is compliant.
- 7.2 Stay up to date on current techniques used for disinfecting the office and controlling transmission of infectious agents.
- 7.3 Take reasonable and appropriate measures to minimize the risk of contamination and transmission of infectious agents within the practice environment.
- 7.4 Maintain access to hot and cold running water or, in a mobile facility, an alternative means of performing hand hygiene in the practice environment.
- 7.5 Maintain a protocol for disinfecting the practice environment and instrumentation.
- 7.6 Follow routine precautions at all times (e.g., hand hygiene, appropriate waste disposal).
- 7.7 Take reasonable steps to ensure that workplace safety protocols are followed.
- 7.8 Take reasonable steps to identify risk factors for eye infection.