



Standard 10: Remote Practice and Technology

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 10: Remote Practice and Technology

Related Standards of Practice

- Standard 2: Evidence-Informed Practice
- Standard 3: Collaborative Care
- Standard 4: Cultural Safety, Cultural Humility, and Anti-Racism
- Standard 12: Privacy and Confidentiality
- Standard 14: Record Keeping and Billing
- Standard 15: Communication and Marketing

Description

The optician ensures that technology is integrated into their opticianry practice—including technology to support remote provision of services—when it is appropriate and in the client’s best interests.

Expected Outcome

The client can expect that their optician’s use of technology will not negatively impact their safety or the quality of care they receive.

Criteria

- 10.1 Evaluate, apply, and adapt developments in clinical theory, opticianry techniques, and technology for clinical practice.
- 10.2 Only engage in remote practice—including remote communication, dispensing, and/or delivery of prescription vision appliances—where it is in the client’s best interests to do so.
- 10.3 Collect, record, store, and transmit client information in a private manner.
- 10.4 Manage all client information in compliance with COBC’s Standards of Practice and applicable privacy and anti-spam legislation.
- 10.5 Ensure that any website or technological interface used as part of remote opticianry practice:
 - a. Complies with COBC’s [advertising bylaw](#).
 - b. Provides the client with reasonable and timely access to an optician.
 - c. Identifies the full name and licence number of any optician who interacts with a client through the interface.
 - d. Complies with applicable Standards of Practice (i.e., Standard 11, Standard 14).
 - e. Meets other relevant legislated requirements.