

Description of Service

Alberta Health Services (AHS) Medical Staff who are specialists in Ophthalmology and have privileges in AHS facilities provide safe, high-quality care for patients across the Province. Ophthalmology is the specialty of surgery “concerned with the prevention, diagnosis, and management of optical, medical, and surgical disorders of the eye, its adnexa, the visual pathways, and the visual system.”¹

For a full list of clinical privileges, please refer to the attached Ophthalmology Clinical Privilege List on page 5.

Zone Medical Staff Organization

Zone	Department(s)	Section(s)
South	Surgery	Specialized Surgery - Ophthalmology
Calgary	Surgery	Ophthalmology
Central	Surgery	Ophthalmology
Edmonton	Surgery	Ophthalmology
North	Hospital Health - Surgery	Ophthalmology

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) Requirements

The CPSA grants practice permits but does not grant any additional practice approvals for specific procedures or specialties beyond those stated on the practice permit.

A practice permit from the CPSA does not guarantee that an individual will be granted for an AHS Medical Staff appointment or privileges. It is AHS’s role and responsibility to screen and evaluate the qualifications of Practitioners in relation to the specific procedures and patient care services they will be providing at specific sites before granting an appointment and clinical privileges.

Physicians with expertise in a particular area of practice may require a CPSA approval process separate from the CPSA licensure and AHS privileging process for specific services. These services typically fall into the non-invasive diagnostics group. Please refer to the CPSA website

¹ Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada – Objectives of Training in the Specialty of Ophthalmology (2015)

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for a list of practice areas requiring approval <http://www.cpsa.ca/accreditation/physician-approvals/>.

Minimum Education and Training Requirements

The “Minimum Education and Training Requirements” set out in the AHS List of Ophthalmology Clinical Privileges are as follows:

1. Appropriate licensure with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta,
AND
2. Credentials satisfactory to the Zone Clinical Department Head (ZCDH), Zone Application Review Committee (ZARC) and/or the Chief Medical Officer (CMO), including:
 - o Successful completion of a Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) accredited residency program in Ophthalmology and fellowship in the RCPSC (FRCS);
 - OR
 - o Equivalent combination of (international) education, training and experience satisfactory to the ZCDH, ZARC and CMO.

These are minimum requirements. The ZCDH, ZARC and the CMO may determine that additional education, training or experience is required. The ZCDH, ZARC and CMO may also determine that an individual has developed competency in a particular area, without having completed a fellowship in that area, through an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. In addition to the minimum requirements listed above, additional education, training, experience and certification may be required to be granted certain clinical privileges. These specifics are identified in the attached clinical privileges list.

Privileges Requiring Additional Education, Training and Experience

The list identifies privileges that require additional specialty training and documentation of evidence that the practitioner has received recognized postgraduate education, training or an appropriate level of experience to safely provide the service.

Clinical Privilege List and Medical Staff Bylaws

The AHS Medical Staff Bylaws state that the clinical privileges granted to a Practitioner define the diagnostic or therapeutic Procedures or other Patient care services a Practitioner is deemed competent to perform, the Facility(ies) and Zone(s) within which the Practitioner is eligible to provide care and services to Patients; and the specified AHS Programs and Professional services...that the Practitioner is eligible to access.²

² AHS Medical Staff Bylaws 3.0.2

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No recommendation on Clinical Privileges is meant to prevent any licensed Practitioner from performing any medical procedure on any person in an emergency situation where failure to perform that procedure may result in death or serious injury or harm to the person.³

Nothing in this document or the attached Ophthalmology List of Clinical Privileges replaces the processes or requirements set out in the AHS Medical Staff Bylaws and Rules. This document and its attachments are intended to supplement and more fully describe the application of the AHS Bylaws and Rules in the context of Ophthalmology Clinical Privileges.

The AHS Medical Staff Bylaws and Rules can be found on the AHS website at <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/7086.asp>.

Interpretation of the Clinical Privilege List

The following list describes and reflects the categories/types of patient services included in the scope of Ophthalmology privileges available to members of the AHS Medical Staff with the necessary and required education, training, and experience. When granted, Ophthalmology privileges include the capability to perform the noted procedure using various techniques and approaches as appropriate for the patient, unless a specific technique or approach is specified. The Zone Clinical Department Head's recommendation regarding specifics of an individual's privileges and any associated techniques will be provided to ZARC and the CMO for their consideration.

The Medical Staff Rules define the minimum review period for the privilege list.⁴

Sites of Clinical Privileges

A delineation of the sites of clinical activity is a required component of clinical privileges (AHS Medical Staff Bylaws, 3.2.1(c) and 3.2.7).

Clinical privileges will reflect the site (or sites) where the Physician physically provides the clinical services. A Physician privileged in the specialty may have clinical privileges at multiple sites if they travel to multiple sites to provide clinical services as approved by the ZCDH, ZARC, and/or the CMO. Privileges granted may only be exercised at the site(s) and/or setting(s) that have sufficient space, equipment, staffing, and other resources required to support the privilege.

³ AHS Medical Staff Rules 3.4.3(e)

⁴ AHS Medical Staff Rules, 3.4.3(f)(ii).

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	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D	Site E
Privilege 1					
Privilege 2					
Privilege 3					
Privilege 4					

The table above indicates what privileges are available at which sites:

- Privilege 1 is available at all sites
- Privilege 2 is available at sites A, C,D and E
- Privilege 3 is available at sites A and C
- Privilege 4 is available at sites B, D and E

Proctoring Requirements

The Zone Clinical Department Head may determine that a period of proctoring is required in certain situations. Proctoring can be defined as follows:

“The term *proctor* is often used to mean observe, supervise, mentor, monitor, or directly assess...*proctoring* reflects a process by which an individual is reviewed and evaluated over time to ensure competence, and proctor identifies the person performing the assessment.” *The Medical Staff Handbook, A Guide to Joint Commission Standards, Second Edition.*

“Proctoring is a process of direct observation that allows for the focused evaluation of current physician competency in carrying out actual clinical care and takes both cognitive and procedural abilities into account. If the proctor observes potential or imminent patient harm during the proctoring process, it may be ethically appropriate for him or her to intervene.” *Proctoring and FPPE: Strategies for Verifying Physician Competence, Second Edition. Robert J. Marder, MD, CMSL, and Mark A. Smith, MD, MBA, CMSL.*

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Clinical Privilege Lists

Ophthalmology Privileges	
General Privileges	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Admitting (Admitting (Most Responsible Practitioner MRP), assessment, evaluating, consulting, diagnosing, treating)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulting (Non-Admitting (not MPR), assessment, evaluating, consulting, diagnosing, treating)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Surgical Assist (at the direction of the surgeon, provides aid in technical functions in the OR)
Clinical Privileges	
Cataract extraction	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extracapsular extraction with/without lens implant
<input type="checkbox"/>	Phacoemulsification with/without lens implant
<input type="checkbox"/>	Secondary intraocular lens insertion
Conjunctiva	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Biopsy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Graft
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pterygium excision (with or without free or sliding conjunctival graft)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repair of laceration
Corneal	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Corneal transplants with/without intraocular lens exchange
<input type="checkbox"/>	Corneal transplants with/without triple procedure
<input type="checkbox"/>	Phototherapeutic keratectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Refractive corneal surgery – including wedge relaxing keratotomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repair of laceration
<input type="checkbox"/>	Superficial keratectomy
Eyelids	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Blepharoplasty - major
<input type="checkbox"/>	Blepharoplasty - minor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coloboma repair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ectropion repair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Entropion repair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eyelid resection for tumor removal with major reconstruction
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ptosis repair procedures
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tarsorrhaphy
Glaucoma	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Angle-based glaucoma procedures
<input type="checkbox"/>	Filtering
<input type="checkbox"/>	Iol - repositioning or removal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Iol - secondary insertion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Iridectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Iridodialysis repair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tube shunts, stent insertion & other reservoir procedures
Lacrimal system	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Canaliculus repair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Conjunctivodacryocystorhinostomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dacryocystorhinostomy

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Probing – routine, balloon cannulation and inflation, including placement of stents	
Orbit		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enucleation with orbital implant	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Evisceration	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exenteration	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exploration and/or decompression	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Orbital reconstruction with replacement of orbital implants	
Removal foreign body		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Imbedded	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Intraocular extraction	
Retina		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repair giant retinal tear	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repair giant retinal tear - with vitrectomy and/or gas insufflation	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Retinal detachment repair - buckle	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vitrectomy with/without membrane peeling	
Sclera		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repair of laceration	
Strabismus		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adjustable suture	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Botox injections - strabismus (lazy eye)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Esotropia repair	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exotropia repair	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hypertropia repair	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transposition procedures	
Uvea		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cyclectomy for melanoma of ciliary body	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cyclocryopexy	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Excision of choroidal melanoma	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ocular tumour resection	
<input type="checkbox"/>	P32 diagnosis of uveal melanoma	
Miscellaneous		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ocular ultrasound	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Electrooculogram	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Interpretation of electroretinograms	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fluorescein angiography	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Intraocular injections	
Extended Privileges: the below listed privileges require education, training and experience in addition to the successful completion of the Fellowship/Residency program.		
Lasers		Successful completion of an RCPS ophthalmology residency AND certifying examination as well as additional laser specific training and/or a combination of education, training and or experience to satisfy the ZCDH.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Argon laser	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Co2 laser	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Diode laser	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nd-yag laser	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other laser _____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pediatric ophthalmology	While an Ophthalmology Specialty certification allows care of all ages, additional expertise (both training and skills) maybe be required for complex pediatric patients. Successful completion of a fellowship in Pediatrics Ophthalmology and demonstrated skill and/or demonstrated combination of education, training and/or experience

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		will be required to satisfy the ZCDH to allow care of complex pediatrics patients.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Photorefractive surgery	ZCSH approval required before each individual procedure. Note limited indications and surgical location.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Plaque scleral radiotherapy	Successful completion of an RCPS ophthalmology residency and certifying examination with a subspecialty fellowship in ocular oncology training or equivalent training in a retina subspecialty and/or a combination of education, training and or experience to satisfy the ZCDH.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Procedural sedation	Compliance with the AHS Procedural Sedation Policy (PS-21) and Procedure (PS-21-01). Demonstrated combination of education, training AND/OR experience in conscious sedation to satisfy the ZCDH.