



# GUIDELINES ON THE ISSUE OF A SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION SPECIFIC TO TELEMEDICINE

## Context

Should a physician from another jurisdiction want to provide care on a regular basis to patients in Quebec, they must hold a permit to practice from the Collège des médecins du Québec (CMQ), a specialist's certificate, and be registered as an active member on the Roll of the Order.

However, the Collège des médecins du Québec may, under section 42.4 of the *Professional Code*, issue a special authorization to practice in telemedicine to a person legally authorized to practice the medical profession outside Quebec (CDA-23-81).

## Eligibility criteria

- Hold a medical degree from a medical school listed in the *International Medical Education Directory* (IMED), published by the *Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research* (FAIMER) or the *World Directory of Medical Schools*;
- Hold a specialist certificate in the relevant specialty;
- Have legal authorization to practice the medical profession outside Quebec (holder of a permit/license) and be in good standing with the issuing body of the authorization to practice;
- The medical activity performed is teleconsultation or teleassistance;
- The activity is performed on an occasional or temporary basis over a short, targeted period;
- Have a referral corridor with a physician, institution, or other clinic in Quebec, to be able to meet in person when required (e.g. for a physical examination);
- Have professional liability insurance covering telemedicine activities.

## Right to practice

A physician holding a special authorization may only practice the medical activities specified in the special authorization in the environment or with the persons stated, on the dates indicated (maximum one year), and in compliance with the standards applicable to physicians who are members of the CMQ, and more specifically those related to ethics, conduct, and professional secrecy.

## Renewal application

A special authorization can be renewed, but it is not automatic. The physician must provide a letter explaining the reasons for the renewal. To make an informed decision, the CMQ may request any other relevant documents.