



QA Practice Assessment

September 2014

Dear Members and Colleagues:

The College of Respiratory Therapists of Ontario (CRTO) acknowledges that the majority of Respiratory Therapists (RTs) are practicing in accordance with the standards of the profession and are committed to maintaining ongoing professional competence. The components that are regularly utilized as part of the CRTO's Quality Assurance Program (QAP), i.e. the Professional Standards Assessment (PSA) and the Portfolio Online for Respiratory Therapists (PORTfolio^{OM}), are generally acceptable for providing evidence of RT's knowledge of the standards and that they are participating in ongoing professional development. However, occasionally a Member is unable to successfully complete one or both of the QA components, despite repeated attempts and customized remediation. In this situation, it may become necessary to assess the RT in his/her own practice setting. For an overview of what sequence of events may lead to a practice assessment, please see the algorithm on the next page.

The *Regulated Health Professions Act* requires that all health regulatory Colleges have a QAP that consists of self, peer and practice assessments.¹ It is important to understand that the CRTO has always had the option to require a Member to undergo a practice assessment; however this type of evaluation is only utilized on the rare occasion when it is deemed absolutely necessary. To ensure that Members are aware of what a practice assessment would consist of, a standardized framework has been developed by the Quality Assurance Committee. You may find the [Practice Assessment](#) policy, along with a [Practice Assessment Guideline](#) and [Checklist](#) on the CRTO [website](#).

If you have any comments or question, please contact **Carole Hamp, RRT – Manager of Quality Practice** via email at hamp@crto.on.ca or by telephone 416-591-7800 ext. 33 /1-800-261-0528 ext. 33.

¹ *Regulated Health Professions Act, Health Professions Procedural Code. 1991*

Minimum requirements for quality assurance program

80.1 A quality assurance program prescribed under section 80 shall include,

- (a) continuing education or professional development designed to,
 - (i) promote continuing competence and continuing quality improvement among the members,
Note: On a day to be named by proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor, clause (a) is amended by adding the following sub clause:

- (i.1) promote interprofessional collaboration, **See: 2009, c. 26, ss. 24 (14), 27 (2).**

- (ii) address changes in practice environments, and

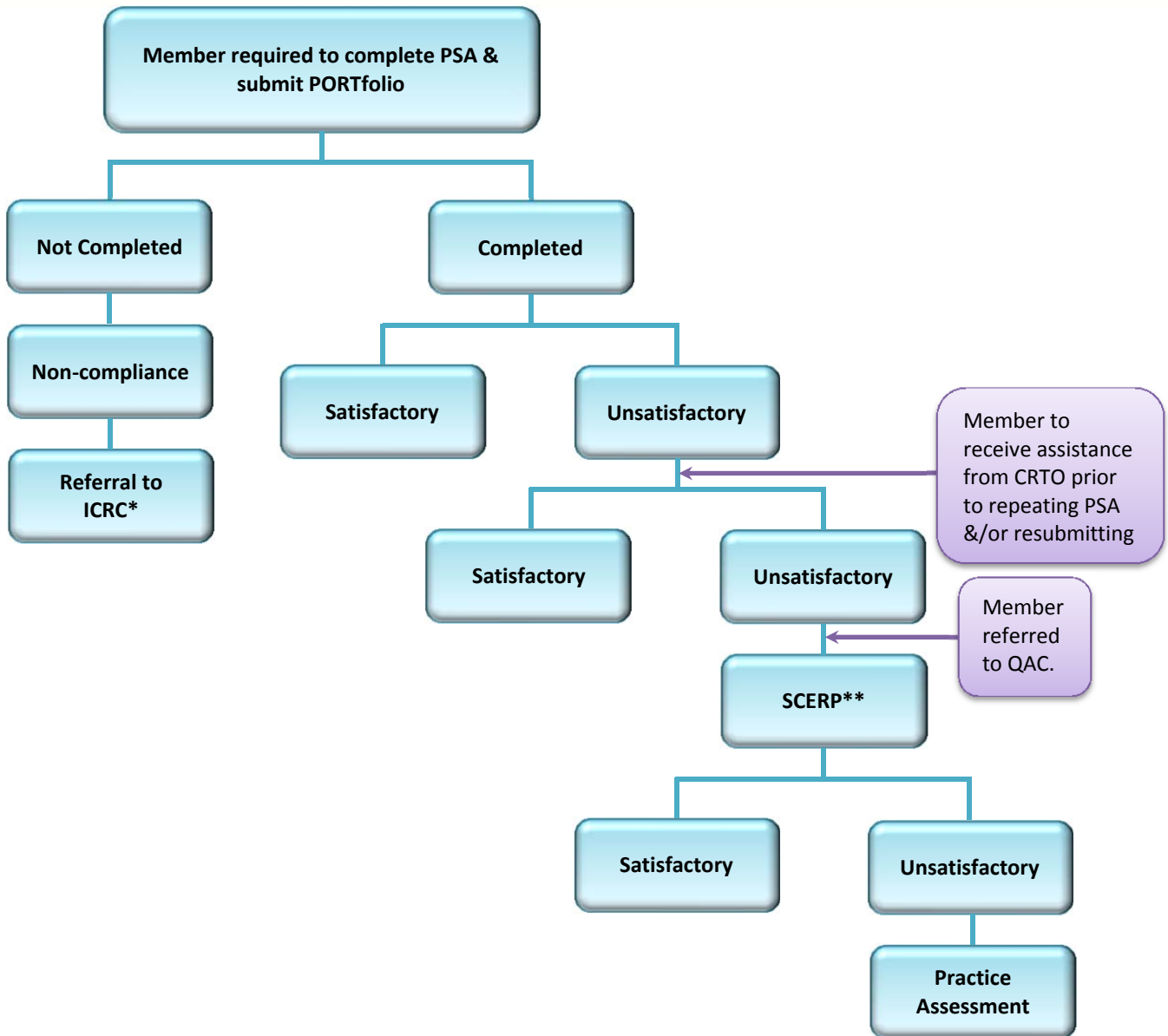
- (iii) incorporate standards of practice, advances in technology, changes made to entry to practice competencies and other relevant issues in the discretion of the Council;

- (b) self, peer and practice assessments; and

- (c) a mechanism for the College to monitor members' participation in, and compliance with, the quality assurance program. 2007, c. 10, Sched. M, s. 58.



MEMBER COMMUNIQUÉ



* Inquiry Complaints and Reports Committee

**Specified Continuing Education and Remediation Program (SCERP)ⁱⁱ

For more information, please see the CRTO QA SCERP Policy.

ii Regulated Health Professions Act, Health Professions Procedural Code. 1991

Powers of the Committee

80.2 (1) The Quality Assurance Committee may do only one or more of the following:

1. Require individual members whose knowledge, skill and judgment have been assessed under section 82 and found to be unsatisfactory to participate in specified continuing education or remediation programs