



Principles of **TRANSPARENCY**

Developed by the Advisory Group for Regulatory Excellence, a sub-group of the Federation of Health Regulatory Colleges of Ontario, the Principles are intended to provide a framework for decision-making related to the accessibility of information for the Public of Ontario.

The College of Respiratory Therapists of Ontario (CRTO) will use these to enhance its existing values of accountability, fairness, openness and effectiveness. For more information on the CRTO's transparency initiatives please visit www.crto.on.ca.

1. The mandate of regulators is public protection and safety. The public needs access to appropriate information in order to trust that this system of self-regulation works effectively.
2. Providing more information to the public has benefits, including improved patient choice and increased accountability for regulators.
3. Any information provided should enhance the public's ability to make decisions or hold the regulator accountable. This information needs to be relevant, credible and accurate.
4. In order for information to be helpful to the public it must:
 - be timely, easy to find and understand, and
 - include context and explanation.
5. Transparency discussions should balance the principles of public protection and accountability, with fairness and privacy.
6. The greater the potential risk to the public, the more important transparency becomes.
7. Certain regulatory processes intended to improve competence may lead to better outcomes for the public if they happen confidentially.
8. Information available from Colleges about Members and processes should be similar.