



# *Saskatchewan College of Psychologists*

*1026 Winnipeg Street  
Regina SK S4R 8P8*

*Tel: (306) 352-1699  
Fax: (306) 352-1697  
Email: [skcp@sasktel.net](mailto:skcp@sasktel.net)  
[www.skcp.ca](http://www.skcp.ca)*

## **Membership Advisory**

### **Videotape Use and Retention in Practice**

The use of technology in the delivery of psychological services is increasingly more common. In integrating technologies into practice Psychologists are advised to keep in mind important issues such as, but not limited to, informed consent, privacy, the appropriateness of the technology to the client need, and record retention. Psychologists are required to practice in accordance with the Canadian Code of Ethics for Psychologists 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (Code), the Saskatchewan College of Psychologists (College) Professional Practice Guidelines (PPG), and all relevant legislation.

In particular the use of video recordings in the process of providing a psychological service such as assessment or treatment, merits specific mention. Psychologists are reminded that in general video recordings that are part of the clinical service being provided should be maintained as part of the formal clinical record. An exception to this might be when the recording is being used as a training tool for the client. In such a case it is acceptable to destroy the recording once the necessity has passed. The expectation for members in using video recording in their work with clients is that standards for informed consent, record content and retention, confidentiality and privacy as covered in legislation, the Code and the PPG apply. This is similar to the expectation for the retention of psychometric test protocols. This record may be important in speaking to any concerns regarding the service provided or in legal proceedings where the opinion of the Psychologist is in question. The video recording is an accurate representation of what occurred. The College advises that it is in the best interests of the public and the members of the profession that informed consent be obtained from those whose image is captured on the record, and that in general the recording be maintained as part of the formal health record.

Video recording for the purpose of supervision of the practice of Provisional members, Psychology Residents, or students is differentiated from video recording for the purpose of providing a service to a client. When recording is to occur for the purpose of supervision, members are reminded that informed consent for the recording is required, as is informed consent in regard to the plan for the destruction of the recording. In the case of video recording for the purpose of supervision, in general the recording would not be a part of the clinical record.