

# HUEC Vulnerable Sector Screen WG

## Background

- HUEC established a Vulnerable Sector Screen Working Group in Fall 2012; met 4 times
- Request from affiliated sites to have a coordinated approach to the reporting of learner VSS
- UG and Physician Assistant have UofT permission to make VSS mandatory

## Terms of Reference

- a) Identify current statutory and hospital regulations governing and practices related to VSS in hospitals
- b) Identify existing gaps in practice or communication about VSS in hospitals
- c) Make recommendations for sites which exceed existing hospital guidelines or statutory regulations
- d) Recommendations must apply to trainees regardless of where UG training was completed

## Members:

- Co-chaired by Vice Dean Spadafora and Dr. Golda Milo-Manson
- Representation from UGME, Physician Assistant program, hospitals, registrarial staff, learner

## Process:

- Reviewed existing VSS and Criminal Record check documentation; CPSO Policy on CRC screens, documents from Council of Health Sciences Education Committee
- Surveyed 24 affiliated sites; environmental scan of screening practices across MD/PA/PGME programs at Canadian med schools
- Input from HUEC members on draft report

# Vulnerable Sector Screen WG Report: Approved at HUEC Jan 22, 2014

## Principles

- FOM will facilitate and enforce Vulnerable Sector Screening of new and continuing learners as a requirement for admission to and/or continued registration in medical education programs.
- Will ensure that the need for a satisfactory VSS is clearly communicated to learners within the healthcare learning environment.

## HUEC VSS Working Group Report Recommendations:

1. VSS be required upon admission or entry and every 5 years thereafter to any Faculty of Medicine medical education program with clinical placements at the affiliated institutions
2. Annual self-disclosure forms in the interim years indicating any changes to their VSS or CRC
3. Expert Panel be established to review positive vulnerable or criminal record screening results
4. POWER/MedSIS Working Group to establish a registration requirement indicator that would enable training sites to ensure that learners have completed the required screen, with coding for full clearance, pending, further review required, or unacceptable
5. All learners have 2 original documents in their Faculty of Medicine file
6. For PGME – as an alternative to VSS, CPS should accept evidence or attestation from international applicants that they have complied with a requirement from Citizenship and Immigration Canada to obtain police certificates as a condition of the issuance of their work permit/study permit.

# Vulnerable Sector Screen for PG learners

- The University does not request VSS from students
- UGME previously requested exemption from UofT policy
- Dean Whiteside sought and received approval from the Vice Provost, Students to extend this exemption to PG learners
- Presented at the January 25, 2014 meeting of PGMEAC
- Plans to make this a registration requirement for 2015-16
- Next steps: to establish
  - 1) HUEC WG to operationalize recommendations re electronic VSS data collection and annual attestation
  - 2) Expert Panel to review positive VSS results