Pre-amble:

Self-Assessment Programs are tools that enable physicians to assess aspects of their knowledge or practice to identify opportunities to enhance their competence through further learning activities. Self-Assessment Programs are not tests but assessment strategies to assist physicians to develop an effective continuing professional development plan linked to their professional roles and responsibilities. All Self-Assessment Programs must meet the following 4 standards for approval within the RCPSC Maintenance of Certification program.

Standard 1: Self-Assessment Programs must be developed to address a defined need within a specific subject area, topic or problem.

Written Self-Assessment Programs (SAP) must be based on an assessment of need including but not limited to a new or expanding scientific evidence base, established variation in the management or application of knowledge or skills by physicians, variation in the quality of care or health care outcomes experienced by patients

Standard 2: Self-Assessment Programs must describe the methods that enable participants to demonstrate or apply their knowledge, skills, clinical judgment or attitudes.

Self-Assessment Programs (SAP) must provide participants with a strategy to assess their knowledge, skills, clinical judgment and attitudes in comparison to established evidence. All Self-Assessment Programs must use methods that enable participants to demonstrate these abilities across all aspects of the subject area, topic or problem.

Standard 3: Self-Assessment Programs must provide detailed feedback to participants on their performance to enable the identification of any area(s) requiring improvement through the development of a future learning plan.

Providing specific feedback on which answers were correct and incorrect with references enables specialists to determine if there are important aspects of their knowledge, skills, clinical judgment or attitudes that need to be addressed through engaging in further learning activities.

Standard 4: The content of Self-Assessment Programs must be developed independent of the influence of any commercial or other conflicts of interest.

All accredited Self-Assessment Programs (SAP) must meet the ethical standards established for all learning activities included within the Maintenance of Certification program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. For example: The developing organization must ensure the validity and scientific objectivity of the content.

Approved SAP must include the statement. "This program is an Accredited Self-Assessment Program (Section 3) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of The Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada, and approved by [Accredited Providers' Name] on dd/mm/yy' Program expires mm/yy. Remember to visit MAINPORT *https://www.mainport.org/mainport/*) to record your learning and outcomes. You may claim a maximum of # hours (credits are automatically calculated)."