

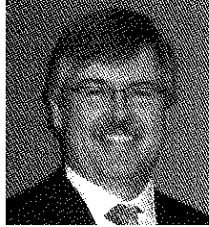


The Manitoba
College of Family
Physicians Inc.

Communiqué

June 2010

President's Message



Summer is around the corner and if you are like me, plans for the summer are well under way. But before you head off to your favorite summer destination, allow me to update you on events that have transpired within our Chapter and events being anticipated. It is our goal to keep you well informed and to remind you that membership has value.

The Annual Scientific Assembly was once again a great success with terrific keynote speakers culminating in interesting presentations given by our Minister of Health, the Hon. Theresa Oswald and the Chief Provincial Public Health Officer, Dr. Joel Kettner, speaking on the H1N1 flu pandemic here in Manitoba. The turnout was excellent as well with about 230 registrants. Our congratulations go out to Dr. Helga Sickert and her Committee on yet another fine program.

During the week of the ASA, The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba arranged a series of presentations on the upcoming revalidation process. Dr. Bernard Marlow, Director of Continuing Professional Development with the CFPC, was invited to speak at these meetings to explain our Mainpro program, which will be one of the main routes by which physicians can be revalidated in this Province. The College of Physicians and Surgeons approached our College to provide this service, given our reputation as providers of high quality CPD. The first meeting took place in Selkirk and via teleconference, a number of smaller communities had a direct link to Dr. Marlow's presentation. I was also given an opportunity to speak about the benefits of becoming actual members and not just Mainpro participants.

Later the same day, the same presentation was given to a small audience at the Brandon General Hospital. The following day, the presentation was given before the ASA registrants and finally that evening the final presentation was given at the Boundary Trails Hospital where Dr. Darcy Johnson was gracious enough to represent our Chapter. There had been some concerns that these presentations would be perceived by non-members as the College trying to exploit the revalidation process, as such criticisms had arisen in other Provinces. So far, this has not been the case, as the feedback was generally positive with physicians primarily concerned with achieving their CPD requirements. However, the opportunity to speak to non-members about the benefits of membership in the CFPC certainly opened my eyes to the value of membership and I anticipate that more value will be continually added on. Next month, our National Office will be sending Manitoba Physicians a letter with further information regarding CPD requirements for licensure.

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President

Dr. Carey Isaac

Past President

Dr. Frances Berard

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Dr. Tamara Buchel

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Dr. Perry Gall

Member-At-Large – Urban

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Member-At-Large – Rural

Dr. David Cram

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Dr. Noor Amin

Dr. Michael Farrugia

Medical Student Representative

Ms. Sandy Furnish

Executive Director

Dr. Gary Beazley

Administrator

Mrs. Susan Patek

Conference Coordinator

Mrs. Kari MacKinnon

The Manitoba College of Family Physicians Inc., has 854 members in its various categories, representing over half of the primary care physicians in the Province. We are part of a national voluntary organization committed to quality patient care through promotion of the role of the family physician, provision of quality continuing medical education and maintaining excellent training programs.

The four principles of family medicine define our profession:

- The family physician is a skilled clinician.
- The family physician is a resource to a defined practice population.
- Family medicine is community-based.
- The doctor-patient relationship is primary to the role of the family physician.

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During the Annual General Meeting at the ASA, it was announced that we were seeking an Urban Member-at-Large and a Rural Member-at-Large, inviting individuals to consider letting their names stand for these positions. I am pleased to announce that Dr. David Cram has agreed to let his name stand as a Rural Member-at-Large and Dr. Paul Sawchuk will accept the position at Urban Member-at-Large. Both of these Physicians bring tremendous experience, innovative thinking and great respect for the practice of Family Medicine, so I look forward to working with them in the coming year.

Our Executive has already had its first meeting since the ASA and one of the more important initiatives being undertaken is providing financial and physical support for the Family Medicine Resident Evening Presentations. These presentations, whose topics were suggested by our Family Medicine representative, Dr. Michael Farrugia, will deal with practical information such as how to run an office, how to bill, licensing, contracts, etc. We have already approached several of our members to lead a number of these events. Such events have been quite well received in the past so we anticipate they will continue to be successful.

In my last letter, I announced that Dr. Gary Beazley had agreed to accept our invitation to become the Chapter's first Executive Director. He is in the process of familiarizing himself with the details of his responsibilities, but has already represented our Chapter at a number of important meetings and is slowly making contact with former associates within various departments and organizations. This can only give our Chapter greater visibility and therefore, give greater visibility to the importance of Family Medicine in Manitoba. Our Provincial Government has consistently expressed support for the work of Family Physicians and we as the Manitoba Chapter need to reinforce that perception through ongoing dialogue and representation.

Carey D. Isaac, MD, CCFP, FCFP,



NATIONAL PHYSICIAN SURVEY: PUTTING MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE ISSUES ON THE PUBLIC AGENDA.

The National Physician Survey (NPS) is more than a survey of physicians, residents and medical students in Canada; it is a powerful source of information that helps us better understand the reality of today's physician workforce, identify emerging issues and put them on the public agenda.

Consider the Evidence:

NPS 2007 received coast-to-coast coverage in more than 100 media outlets

Articles and stories appeared in the most influential outlets, including CTV's Canada AM, Global National News, the Globe and Mail, La Presse and the Toronto Star

Leaders of the CMA, Royal College and College of Family Physicians were interviewed and quoted widely

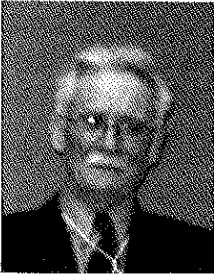
Key medical issues like physician shortages, wait times, practice models and remuneration were put on the public agenda

Health care continues to evolve in Canada and the debates on everything from funding and wait times to medical education and the use of technology continue. That's why it's more important than ever for physicians and future physicians to complete the survey questionnaire and bring clarity to these debates.

A collaborative effort of the Canadian Medical Association, The College of Family Physicians of Canada and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, the NPS marks its third edition in 2010, building on successful surveys in 2004 and 2007.

For data from the previous editions and for more information on the 2010 edition, visit www.nationalphysiciansurvey.ca.

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MANITOBA COLLEGE OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS



We are very pleased to announce that Dr. Gary Beazley has assumed the position of Executive Director of the Manitoba College of Family Physicians. Dr. Beazley graduated from Medical School in 1961, interned at St. Boniface Hospital and started practice in Transcona, with admitting privileges at Concordia and St. Boniface Hospitals.

Early on, he realized that he was inadequately trained for a lot of the work which needed to be done. In attempting to enhance his education, he became very involved at St. Boniface Hospital and found himself in the forefront of a battle to preserve admitting privileges for General Practitioners (G.P.s). In March 1970 the government ordered a Commission of Inquiry into Hospital Admitting Privileges. G.P.s were not within the Terms of Reference but Dr. Beazley and others, with the assistance of a lawyer, were finally allowed to plead their case. The report was released in the Winnipeg Free Press on April 13, 1971 and it included a recommendation to the University to "start a training program for grads who were intending to do General Practice or Family Practice."

Shortly after the release of the report, Dr. Arnold Naimark, who had recently become Dean, phoned Dr. Beazley and offered him the job of developing a Family Practice Training Program. The Program was a success, expanding to a second site at Seven Oaks Hospital and ultimately a third site in Dauphin. In 1980 the program achieved Departmental Status and Dr. Beazley became the Professor and Head and also Head of the Department of Family Practice at St. Boniface General Hospital.

By the end of his second term in 1990, he moved into the fields of Undergraduate Education and rural continuing medical education and rural development. He was Chair of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee for 7 years. Dr. Brian Hennen, Dean of the Medical School, in recommending Dr. Beazley for the Ian McWhinney Family Medicine Education Award in 2004 stated "He has contributed to Family Medicine Education in nearly every way possible".

In 1999 he led in planning and presenting a major workshop on the Sustainability of Primary Care in Manitoba. The report led to the establishment of the Office of Rural and Northern Health (ORNH).

Dr. Beazley retired from his personal medical practice in December 1999 and from the University of Manitoba in 2000. He was awarded Professor Emeritus status upon retirement.

While working for Manitoba Health for 4-5 years as a consultant in Workforce Policy and Planning he played various roles including Chair of the Rural Physician Retention Committee. During this period (1999-2003) he was also serving as Chief of Clinical Staff as well as part-time staff physician at the Aboriginal Health and Wellness Centre. He returned there in 2006 and continues to this day.



SIMULATED OFFICE ORAL (SOO) PREPARATION & PRACTICE WORKSHOP

Ms. Gail Greenberg of the University of Saskatchewan, Department of Family Medicine will be offering two Simulated Office Oral (SOO) Preparation & Practice Workshops for candidates registered for the November Exam. These workshops will take place on:

September 11 – 12, 2010

&

September 25 – 26, 2010

For further information or to register for these Workshops please go to

www.imgCommunicationspecialist.com

BONE DENSITY & OSTEOPOROSIS:

An Update for Manitoba Physicians

No. 11: May 12, 2010

“Vitamin D Testing and Replacement”

Vitamin D supplementation	<p>Virtually all Canadians are affected by suboptimal vitamin D status due to our northern latitude and lack of good nutritional sources. As a result, Health Canada now recommends vitamin D supplementation for all men and women over age 50. Those under 50 are also likely to have suboptimal vitamin D status, especially during winter months, and may choose to take supplements as well. The suggested dose of vitamin D for adults is a minimum of 400 IU, although the strongest evidence is for doses of at least 800 IU. Daily doses up to 2000 IU are safe and do not require serologic monitoring.</p> <p>The Canadian Pediatric Society recommends a vitamin D intake of 400 IU/d, with an increase to 800 IU/d for babies north of the 55th parallel.</p>
Who needs testing?	<p>Serologic testing of 25-OH-vitamin D SHOULD be considered in the following situations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Individuals starting pharmacologic therapy for documented osteoporosis. Measurement of serum 25-OH-D should follow 3-4 months of an adequate supplementation dose and should not be repeated if an optimal level is achieved (≥ 75 nmol/L).2. Individuals with recurrent fractures, bone loss despite osteoporosis treatment, or comorbid conditions that affect vitamin D absorption or action.
Who does NOT need testing?	<p>Individuals for whom vitamin D testing is NOT required:</p> <p>Healthy adults at low risk for vitamin D deficiency (i.e., without osteoporosis or conditions affecting vitamin D absorption or action).</p>

Should a physician feel that a patient needs a vitamin D level on an urgent basis, they may direct their request to the Clinical Biochemist on call (reachable via any hospital switchboard/paging operator or directly via paging number 931-5253).

2011 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY

Please mark your calendars – our 2011 Annual Scientific Assembly will be held

Thursday to Saturday, April 7th – 9th, 2011
The Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre
1808 Wellington Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba

We hope you will join us at our new venue!