

# Section News



**ALBERTA  
MEDICAL  
ASSOCIATION**

Welcome to the Alberta Medical Association's *Section News* - an opportunity for sections to report on their challenges and objectives. This service helps sections communicate with all AMA members as well as physicians in their own specialties. Your feedback is encouraged. Please contact: Candy L. Holland, Manager, Website and Publications, or Agnes E. McIntyre, Administrative Assistant, Section Services, phone 780.482.2626, toll-free 1.800.272.9680 or email [candy.holland@albertadoctors.org](mailto:candy.holland@albertadoctors.org) or [agnes.mcintyre@albertadoctors.org](mailto:agnes.mcintyre@albertadoctors.org).

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**Section of General Practice  
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**\* Annual general meeting in September**

The Section of General Practice annual general meeting (AGM) will be held Thursday, September 23, 8:30-9 p.m., at the Sutton Place Hotel in Edmonton. It will be held in conjunction with the Alberta Medical Association's (AMA's) Fall Representative Forum and AGM.

**\* Primary and Chronic Care Strategy update**

The July 13 *President's Letter* updated physicians about activity at the AMA around primary and chronic care.

It stated: "The AMA's approach to primary and chronic care is being led by the Section of General Practice, Section of Rural Medicine and PCN Leads, which are working closely with the Alberta College of Family Physicians." This has become the Primary Care Strategy group.

The letter goes on to say "the AMA's approach is still under development, and the General Practice Representation Working Group is serving as the hub of these discussions. At a meeting on July 16, early discussions were held about building relationships and coordinating efforts with Alberta Health Services (AHS).

"The AMA's strategy aligns with Patients First® and Value for Patients™, and is being built around the concept of 'a medical home' as developed by the College of Family Physicians of Canada.

"The five pillars of the medical home are:

- A personal family doctor for every patient
- Access to a patient-centred team
- Timely access to patient-centred care
- Coordination of care including access to consulting specialists
- Electronic information and communication, e.g., electronic medical record (EMR)

"The strategy requires appropriate funding and resources, quality improvement processes and evaluation. Other supports include access to practice management services and governance models for the relationship of independent medical practices and the rest of the health care system.

"AHS has also been engaging stakeholders, including the AMA, in developing its 'Discussion Paper on Primary Care Models.' The AHS paper points out that enhanced PCNs are a major way forward in supporting primary care."

The AMA and the Primary Care Strategy group are exploring "other opportunities such as modernizing the *Schedule of Medical Benefits*, introducing telephone and Internet consultations, and clarifying roles via a patient's charter. Strong

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linkages among primary, secondary and tertiary care are also essential, with the AHS clinical networks providing one option.”

**\* AHS Open Space Forum on Primary Care in Alberta**

Early last month, AHS hosted the Open Space Forum on Primary Care in Alberta. Key stakeholders, including the AMA, were invited to discuss key steps to expanding, evolving or enhancing primary care and how to overcome potential obstacles.

AHS distributed a paper – *Open Space Forum on Primary Care in Alberta* – that includes information about the key themes discussed. Active SGP members may access the document on the SGP-secure web page (log in at <http://www.albertadoctors.org/SGP/Communications>).

Please feel free to email me comments about the paper ([gppres@albertadoctors.org](mailto:gppres@albertadoctors.org)) or email AHS directly at [PrimaryCareFeedback@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:PrimaryCareFeedback@albertahealthservices.ca).

**Section of Laboratory Physicians**

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**\* ASLP annual general meeting – Venue and date change**

All Alberta pathologists and pathology residents are invited to attend the Alberta Section of Laboratory Physicians (ASLP) annual general meeting (AGM) by videoconference Friday, September 17, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Revised information about the meeting and videoconference sites will be forwarded later.

Elections to the ASLP Executive Committee will be held at this meeting. A request for nominations will be sent out shortly.

To be eligible to vote at the ASLP AGM, you must be an active ASLP section member. To ensure you are an active 2009-10 ASLP section member, contact Kirsten M. Sieben, Team

Leader, Membership and Benefits, Alberta Medical Association, at [kirsten.sieben@albertadoctors.org](mailto:kirsten.sieben@albertadoctors.org) or 780.482.0323.

**Section of Pediatrics**

**Dr. Robert R. Moriartey, President**

**F 780.450.0360**

**\* Annual meeting**

The Alberta Medical Association Section of Pediatrics/ Alberta Pediatric Society wish to advise you of the upcoming Alberta Pediatric Society annual meeting Saturday, October 23, at the Carriage House Inn, 9030 Macleod Trail SW, Calgary.

***Preliminary program information***

- Lunch: 12-1:30 p.m.
- CME session: 1:30-3:30 p.m.
- Business meeting: 4-6 p.m.
- Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Rooms at the Carriage House Inn have been reserved under the Alberta Pediatric Society. Please contact the hotel directly at 403.253.1101, toll-free at 1.800.661.9566 or by email at [reserve@carriagehouse.net](mailto:reserve@carriagehouse.net) should you require a reservation.

***Room rates***

- Deluxe – \$119
- VIP – \$129
- Executive king – \$189
- Executive suite – \$289

*(5% GST and 4% Provincial Marketing Levy and 1% Destination Marketing Fee are not included. \$10 extra person charge applies. Children 17 and under stay free in their parents' room.)*

***RSVP***

- Dr. Stephen Wainer at [wainers@gmail.com](mailto:wainers@gmail.com) or
- Dr. Robert Moriartey at [rmoriartey@telusplanet.net](mailto:rmoriartey@telusplanet.net) or C 780.934.4577

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**Section of Rural Medicine**  
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★ **Primary care and enhanced primary care networks**

As I noted in the July *Section News*, the work on changing/improving primary care has continued through July. There have been multiple meetings involving various combinations of the Section of Rural Medicine (SRM), Section of General Practice (SGP), Alberta Medical Association (AMA), Alberta College of Family Physicians (ACFP) and Alberta Health Services (AHS).

AHS has asked for input from family physicians on the work they are doing to define and present an altered version of primary care for Albertans.

That input has been provided in various forums, and the AMA is also working to formulate its own vision of a new model of primary care. A *Strategic Plan for Primary and Chronic Care* has been prepared and is being circulated for comment. We hope to have all the comments back by mid-August, and a revised version will be presented to the AMA's Representative Forum (RF) in September.

With the comments from RF, a final version will be prepared and then shared with AHS this fall.

Anyone interested in commenting on this document and requesting a copy should email Grant Sorochan, Practice Management Program Consultant, AMA ([grant.sorochan@albertadoctors.org](mailto:grant.sorochan@albertadoctors.org)).

★ **Key directions for AHS**

AHS has decided upon five key directions for their next several years of effort. Delivery on these key directions will, of course, be done in cooperation with Alberta Health and Wellness.

The five identified key directions are Primary Care, Seniors Strategy, Coalescing the Various AHS Business Units, Workforce Optimization

and Access. The last one is probably the most important, but it cannot be achieved without the full participation of primary care physicians.

A quick glance at those areas clearly shows that family/general practitioners will be vital to AHS achieving its goals. To date, AHS has been working hard to get our input and participation. Equally, we have been trying to contribute constructively to their activities.

★ **CRITER course**

The University of Alberta departments of Critical Care and Emergency Medicine will be presenting the CRITER course at Jasper Park Lodge, September 11-12.

Topics range from medicine in Haiti to pandemic lessons. There are talks on ABGs, cardiology and a host of other topics. One of the organizers is Mike Kolber, whom many of you will know from Peace River.

The cost is a relatively modest \$325 if you register early. For full details and a brochure, please email [jodi.yerex@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:jodi.yerex@albertahealthservices.ca).

★ **Representative Forum**

The fall RF will be held September 24-25 at the Sutton Place Hotel in Edmonton.

One of the main topics will be our plan for Negotiations 2011. Another, of course, will be the AMA's vision of primary care. We will also be looking at the proposed Provincial Medical Staff Bylaws.

If you have any ideas on these or other provincial topics in the purview of the AMA, please pass your comments along to this section or to any RF representative.

Rural delegates to RF are reminded of the GP Forum on the Thursday evening before RF. Please be sure to attend, and be prepared to discuss common GP positions on issues facing the profession.

Have a relaxing and enjoyable summer.

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## FALL 2010 SECTION MEETINGS

### ❖ Friday, September 17

#### Section of Laboratory Physicians

Annual General Meeting  
Videoconference sites to follow  
11:30-1 p.m.

### ❖ Thursday, September 23

#### Section of Emergency Medicine

Annual General Meeting  
Sutton Place Hotel, Edmonton  
4-8:30 p.m.  
*(Dinner will be provided.)*

#### Section of General Practice

Executive Committee Meeting  
Sutton Place Hotel, Edmonton  
9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
*(Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.)*

#### General Practitioners Forum

Sutton Place Hotel, Edmonton  
6-8:30 p.m. *(By invitation only.)*  
*(Dinner will be provided at 5:30 p.m.)*

#### Section of General Practice

Annual General Meeting  
Sutton Place Hotel, Edmonton  
8:30-9 p.m.

#### Section of General Psychiatry

Executive Committee Meeting  
Sutton Place Hotel, Edmonton  
6-9 p.m.  
*(Dinner will be provided.)*

### ❖ Friday, September 24

#### Section of Medical Examiners

Executive Committee Meeting  
Sutton Place Hotel, Edmonton  
5-6 p.m.

#### Section of Ophthalmology

Annual General Meeting  
Edmonton Centre Suite Hotel, Edmonton  
5:30-7:30 p.m.  
*(Dinner will be provided.)*

### ❖ Saturday, September 25

#### Section of Anesthesia

Annual General Meeting  
Sutton Place Hotel, Edmonton  
5:30-8 p.m.  
*(Dinner will be provided.)*

### ❖ Wednesday, September 29

#### Section of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Annual General Meeting  
Red Deer  
6 p.m.  
*(Dinner will be provided.)*

### ❖ Saturday, October 23

#### Section of Pediatrics/Alberta Pediatric Society

Annual Meeting  
Carriage House Inn, Calgary  
12-6:30 p.m.  
*(Lunch and dinner will be provided.)*