

The President's Letter

Dr. Christopher J.(Chip) Doig



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Dear Member:

As discussed in my December 22, 2009 *President's Letter*, the 4.5% increase for physician fees has been approved for implementation April 1, 2010 as agreed in the 2008 fiscal agreement. This increase is allocated to sections based on a number of factors including: adjustments for overhead, targeted/priority funding and a per full-time-equivalent payment to sections.

Allocation is a complex initiative involving many individual physicians, sections, committees and staff from Alberta Medical Association (AMA), Alberta Health and Wellness and Alberta Health Services. The allocation process occurs over a 15-month period.

Allocation 101

Recognizing the complexity of allocation, the AMA's Physician Compensation Strategy Board Steering Committee directed AMA staff to develop a comprehensive guide to explain allocation to physicians in general, and to section representatives (who are intimately involved in allocation), in particular. Aptly named *Allocation 101*, the guide has two versions:

- Physician Version – a streamlined document providing allocation highlights
- Section Version – a comprehensive manual to help section representatives understand the details of the process, and their responsibilities within it

Allocation 101 is a living document that will change as policies are developed or processes are revised. Both versions of *Allocation 101* are posted on the AMA website. Click on the link below and log in with your AMA number and password to read the physician (or section) version: <http://www.albertadoctors.org/FeesNegotiations/Allocation>.

Please provide feedback on the document you read by completing a quick survey. Click on the link on the website listed below the version of the *Allocation 101* document that you have read.

Information on the 2010-11 allocation will be coming soon.

Yours truly,

Christopher J. (Chip) Doig, MD, MSc, FRCPC
President