

10 WAYS YOUR CONSTITUENTS BENEFIT FROM THE TRILATERAL AGREEMENT

The Albertans you represent benefit every day from the trilateral agreement between Alberta Health and Wellness, the Alberta Medical Association (AMA) and Alberta's regional health authorities (RHAs).

The information below may look familiar because it was sent to all MLAs in June in a letter from the AMA. We know, however, that health care is one of the topics that your constituents frequently talk to you about. We thought, therefore, that these 10 benefits would bear repeating.

Trilateral agreement

1. The health needs of Albertans are addressed through a collaborative working relationship between Alberta Health and Wellness, the Alberta Medical Association and the RHAs.

Physician compensation

2. Alberta is more competitive – nationally and internationally – in attracting physicians, with newly increased compensation for physicians.

Primary Care Initiative

3. More Albertans have access to primary care through a team approach where physicians work with other health care professionals in primary care networks.

Physician Office System Program

4. The value of the provincial electronic health record, targeted for 2008, is significantly enhanced by having physician offices computerized.
5. Physicians are able to electronically access patient information (e.g., test results) to provide the right care, at the right time, in the right place.
6. Patients' electronic medical records are secure and protected in physicians' offices.

Retention benefit

7. More physicians remain in practice as this new program rewards physicians for practising – and staying – in Alberta.

Clinical Stabilization Initiative

8. Patients in under-serviced areas (e.g., rural/remote/northern areas) benefit from programs that support recruiting and retaining physicians – more physicians equal better access.
9. Physicians may be able to stay in practice thanks to special funding that addresses dramatic increases in overhead/business costs due to Alberta's booming economy.
10. Communities facing a crisis in delivering medical care can apply for timely assistance from the trilateral Master Committee.

The AMA looks forward to continuing to work
with Alberta Health and Wellness and the RHAs
to ensure Alberta's health care system keeps
Patients First®

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