



SGP BULLETIN

September 20, 2017

Fall Representative Forum – Income Equity work to continue

Dear Family Physician,

In my most recent letter, I communicated that the Income Equity Implementation Plan was to be presented and approved at the Fall RF so that work can continue according to timelines.

I am happy to report that the Representative Forum strongly supported continuing the income equity work with no intention to stall.

A majority of the RF delegates felt there was not enough time prior to the RF to properly review the Implementation Plan. There was a reluctance to officially approve the plan as delegates wanted more time to review, consult with their section members and offer feedback. As such, official approval of the plan has been postponed until the Spring 2018 RF.

By postponing approval of the Implementation Plan, there will be more time to communicate with physicians and obtain proper feedback. This extra time will help ensure that we move forward appropriately and engaged as an entire profession.

The postponement does not stall any of the work that has been started on income equity. The AMA will continue to gather the data that will be needed to make income equity happen.

Our initial timelines of five years to complete this process were extremely aggressive. As I mentioned in my last letter, we see some extending of these timelines to ensure data is accurate and the profession is properly informed.

I appreciate that some physicians may be frustrated by the postponement and concerned that this may be the beginning of ongoing stall tactics that have previously been experienced when we attempted to address income equity. At this time, there are three factors that offer reassurance that we have not stalled:

1. The Implementation Plan has not been defeated
2. All work related to income equity will continue
3. The profession is not divided

On the last point in particular, I am pleased to report that specialists and generalists came together at RF to pave a way forward that allows a) the appropriate data to be gathered before adjustments are made, and b) the profession to remain united in this endeavor.

The AMA will be regularly updating members and sections over the next 6 months. The AMA Compensation Committee will be consulting with all sections and have committed to reviewing and considering all section feedback as we move forward. Over the coming months, consultation will become more targeted and specific, particularly as it relates to overhead measurement and hours of work. SGP will continue to keep you updated as this work progresses.

If you have not had the opportunity to review the Implementation Plan, I would encourage you to do so: [Income Equity Initiative Implementation Plan](#) (login required).

The Section of General Practice always welcomes your feedback on this, and any other issue. Please get in touch at gppres@albertadoctors.org.

Regards,



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President - AMA Section of General Practice

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