

**PROVINCIAL ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORDS STRATEGY
CONSULTATION AGREEMENT**

BETWEEN

**HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
IN RIGHT OF ALBERTA
As presented by the
MINISTER OF HEALTH
("AH")**

and

**ALBERTA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
(C.M.A. ALBERTA DIVISION)
("AMA")**

1. Description

- a) The Physician Office Systems Program (POSP) provided financial, change management and transitional support for physicians wanting to adopt electronic medical record (EMR) technology. In 2010, the parties agreed to an EMR Acceleration Plan that will be completed on March 31, 2014.
- b) The parties have been successful in deploying electronic medical records to a substantial number of physicians and their practices.
- c) An integrated and coordinated provincial EMR replacement strategy that meets the needs of patients, physicians and the health system is a critical component of our evolving health information system and a key enabler for many health system priorities and initiatives (such as primary care and strategic clinical networks).
- d) AH agrees to consult with the AMA on the development of a new approach and an ongoing implementation plan for physician electronic medical records.

2. Provincial EMR Strategy Development

- a) AH, AMA and Alberta Health Services (AHS) will develop a provincial EMR strategy that will define the future approach to EMR use, adoption and communication between health system providers in delivering care to the patients of Alberta.

- b) The strategy will be focused on EMRs within community-based physician practices (both family physicians and specialists) and will consider such subjects as EMR standards and integration, clinical decision support needs, meaningful use, analytics for population health and linkages to other provincial IM/IT strategies. Additional subject areas will be determined as part of the strategy development process. The strategy will also include an implementation approach and consultation process that will include AMA involvement.
- c) The development of the provincial EMR strategy will require a working group that will be chaired by AH and will have representation from AH, AMA and AHS and not more than three members from each. This working group will leverage existing Electronic Health Record governance structures and will provide a final report to the provincial Health Information Executive Committee, no later than February 15, 2014, to be recommended for approval by the Minister of Health prior to March 31, 2014.

3. Subject To

This Consultation Agreement is subject to AMA's members ratifying by May 30, 2013, the written AMA Agreement made effective April 1, 2011 between AH and the AMA.



Deputy Minister
Alberta Health



Executive Director
Alberta Medical Association