

Family Medicine Review

February 11, 2022

Welcome to the most recent issue of the *Family Medicine Review*. Brought to you by the Sections of Family Medicine and Rural Medicine, the *Review* offers an at-a-glance summary of information, resources, and events for Alberta's family physicians. New issues will be shared twice a month.

Priority Notes

- ❖ *Lifting of public health measures (see COVID-19)*
- ❖ *Launch of the RESIDE Program (see Physician Supply)*
- ❖ *2022 Virtual Family Medicine Summit – with early-bird and promo code (see Upcoming Events)*

Negotiations

- The [February 10 President's Letter](#) reported that the AMA continues to work with government on returning to formal negotiations. Both teams have met with a professional facilitator and engaged in training for interest-based discussions. Facilitated joint sessions took place January 17-18 and more joint meetings are scheduled for this week and beyond.

Compensation

- A webinar on the virtual code changes was held on Wednesday, January 26, 2022 and the recording is now available [here](#).

Informatics

- Alberta Health Services released the following bulletin: [Information about the Delivery of Results to Community-based Providers from Connect Care: Connect Care Identifiers and Launch Sequencing Update](#).
- The presidents of SFM and SRM will join other section leads in a meeting to discuss concerns with the planned release of additional clinical content. DI reports are expected to be released in the second quarter of 2022, with results no longer subject to a five-day delay. A follow-up webinar is being planned for all AMA members.

COVID-19

- On Tuesday, February 8 the [Government of Alberta announced that it would eliminate the provincial Restrictions Exemption Program \(REP\) as of midnight Tuesday](#). This is the first step in a three-stage approach to removing all public health measures. Masks will no longer be required in schools as of Monday, February 14.
- Recordings of the January 3 and January 11 webinars focused on preparing community practices to deal with surging Omicron cases are still available [here](#).
- [Access to select, no-cost PPE for primary care physicians, pediatricians and their staff ends on February 28, 2022](#).

Advocacy

- The [February 3 President's Letter](#) discussed the importance of advocacy to explain the state of health care to Albertans, including the issues members identified as a priority in the AMA's most recent survey.
- There are currently two openings on the AMA's flagship Health Issues Council, which provides advice, options and analysis to the Board in assessing how the association should respond to new and

evolving health issues facing the profession and the public. [The deadline to apply has been extended to February 13.](#)

Physician Supply

- On January 31, the Minister of Health announced the launch of the [Rural Education Supplement and Integrated Doctor Experience \(RESIDE\) Program](#).
- [SRM President Dr. Sam Myhr was interviewed by Postmedia](#) regarding the program and its possible impact on rural recruitment and retention.

Governance

- Family physician leadership have several upcoming meetings, including the SFM Executive Meeting on March 3 and the Family Medicine Meeting on March 7.
- Dr. Heidi Fell has been acclaimed as the SFM RF Delegate for a three-year term.
- The Spring 2022 Representative Forum meeting will be held in two parts:
 - Part 1: A one-day virtual meeting to be held Friday, March 11
 - Part 2: A two-day in-person meeting to be held May 13-14 in Calgary

Upcoming Events

- **2022 Virtual Family Medicine Summit – Register Today!**

March 4-6, 2022

www.familymedicinesummit.ca

The ACFP's annual Family Medicine Summit conference will be fully virtual again this year but will offer even more learning and networking options. To register, [click here](#).

Please note that conference [early-bird pricing](#) remains in effect until February 15 (\$425 for ACFP/CFPC members/\$525 for non-members – which increases to \$495/\$575 respectively after). ACFP is also offering a promo code that allows registrants to receive an additional \$25 off of their registration fee if they register prior to February 15. Just use the code SponsorPromo22 at checkout.

Best regards,

Dr. Craig Hodgson
President
Section of Family Medicine

Dr. Samantha Myhr
President
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