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Dr. Tyler Pirlot, President, Section of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
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Section of General Practice

The 2019 Tarrant Scholarship opportunity is here!
Medical students can apply; practicing physicians can give back through donations

The Section of Rural Medicine is accepting applications for the 2019 Tarrant Scholarship, named in honor of Dr. Michael Tarrant, a dedicated family physician and champion of rural medicine undergraduate education.

The Tarrant Scholarship serves as a well-received and highly valued incentive for qualified third-year medical students to focus their undergraduate studies (and ultimately their careers) on rural medicine.

The Tarrant Scholarship is presented every fall to third-year medical students from University of Alberta and University of Calgary who demonstrate a strong interest in and dedication to rural medicine during their undergraduate years.

Since its inception in 2004, the Tarrant Scholarship has been awarded to 37 medical students and has provided over $400,000 in awards.

Medical students can apply
Medical students are eligible to apply for the scholarship if they meet the following criteria:

- Are a U of A or U of C medical student in clerkship in 2019.
- Are keenly interested in building a career in rural medicine in Alberta.
- Demonstrate a dedicated to rural medicine in your undergraduate work.

Physicians can donate to support the scholarship and rural medicine
In the past, SRM has partnered with the Canadian Medical Foundation and the AMA to enable members to contribute on a charitable basis to the Tarrant Scholarship program. A great response was received. The section would like to thank all who donated. Your contributions enabled the continuation of this important scholarship.

The section encourages you once again to consider a tax-deductible donation to help ensure the continued future of the Tarrant Scholarship as it works to sustain the educational development of future rural physicians.

Application form and deadline
Find out more about the Tarrant Scholarship and download the 2019 Tarrant Scholarship application form.

Application deadline is May 31.
eConsult study/survey for nephrology in Alberta

You are invited to complete a survey for the research study: 'Improving access to specialist nephrology care among the rural/remote residents of Alberta: The role of electronic (web-based) consultation in improving the care of patients with chronic kidney disease.'

This study is being conducted by the University of Alberta (Ethics ID Pro00046614).

This survey is being administered to primary care providers to help us gain valuable information regarding factors that favor or hinder the adoption of technology (like eConsult) in the referral process between primary care and specialist. The results from this survey will be beneficial for facilitating the use of eConsult and rectify barriers.

Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary. The survey will take about 10 minutes to complete.

You may open the survey in your web browser by clicking the link below (or copy and paste the link into your browser):
https://redcap.ualberta.ca/surveys/?s=P7JC7YCAL7

Thank you for participating in this study.

Dr. Aminu Bello
Principle Investigator

If you have any questions, please contact:
Dr. Deenaz Zaidi
Department of Medicine, Division of Nephrology, University of Alberta
Email: rakcap@ualberta.ca
Phone: 780-492-5016

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SGP Bulletin - March 11, 2019

Opioid use disorder – The ongoing challenge
The 2018 Q3 Alberta Opioid Response Surveillance Report highlights the continuing opioid crisis we are facing in Alberta. ...more

SGP Bulletin - March 15, 2019

What's in a name?
As you know, the job of the Section of General Practice is to represent front-line family physicians and our patients in a very complex health care system. ...more
Section of Generalists in Mental Health

Section Update

- Our section began 2019 with renewed energy and enthusiasm, as we welcomed our newly elected section executive at the AGM in January.
- We look forward to connecting with our members through voluntary participation in our Members Directory.
- We have formalized our relationship within the Section of General Practice and look forward to collaboration regarding economic issues.
- Recently the executive agreed on a vision for the Section of collegial connection, education, and promotion of our role in providing quality mental health services.
- If you have an interest in mental health, consider joining our section, even as an associate member.

Section of Addiction Medicine

Section Update

Membership
Members can retain primary membership in their respective sections and have an associate membership in the Section of Addiction Medicine. The membership fee is only $5.00 per year. We need to grow and develop a sense of community.

Coming together to help patients
There are numerous initiatives that are underway as we struggle with the opioid overdose epidemic. At the spring 2019 RF in Calgary, there was confusion regarding whether patients transferred out of AHS opioid dependency clinics will be taken back in if they de-stabilize. The answer is YES. Additional supports are available by contacting AHS’s RAAPID line to talk to a physician with expertise in opioid use disorders.

Please contact the AMA to join our wonderful section! We need you and each other if we are to work towards helping our patients.

Krishna Balachandra MD FRCPC
President, Section of Addiction Medicine

Events
Section meeting/dinner
Date: Thursday, June 6
Location: south Edmonton
More information to follow

11th Annual Addiction Day Conference (www.addictionday.ca)
Date: Friday, June 7
Location: Executive Royal Inn, Edmonton International Airport
About the conference | Registration

Section of Chronic Pain
**Section Update**

We’re new...Please join!
Since Addiction can be a serious and life-threatening condition that is not limited to any area of medicine, our section is open to any physician.

**Changes to 03.08F fee code**
On February 12th, the Section of Chronic Pain (represented by President Dr. Yasmin Majeed, Past-President Dr. Marc Klasa and members Drs. John Periera and Omar Rahaman) met with the Section of General Practice Compensation Working Group (chaired by Dr. Darryl LaBuick, President, SGP) to further discuss changes to the 03.08F fee code.

At this meeting, the Section of Chronic Pain documented the increased complexity for assessments required for patients suffering from chronic pain. They require the support of allied health workers. Even now, a number of Chronic Pain clinics in rural areas are struggling financially. Any decrease in this code may lead to closure of these clinics due to financial constraints. This information was well-received by the SGP.

We hope that the Compensation Working Group will have a new proposal for this code within the next few months. The Section of Chronic Pain will be happy to share more information, as it becomes available.

**Shortage of chronic pain physicians**
Our section is very concerned about the loss of chronic pain physicians in the Edmonton area. The University of Alberta is facing a shortage of pain physicians, which will have a negative impact on the care provided for chronic pain patients. This is indeed a major setback for the region. Our goal is to work closely with the Alberta Medical Association and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta to find a solution to this issue in the greater Edmonton area.

Sincerely,
Dr. Yasmin Majeed
MD. CCFP (CoE) FCFP
President, Section of Chronic Pain

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**Section of Pediatrics**
Section Update

Section AGM
The Section of Pediatrics AGM was held February 15th. Thank you to all members who contributed in person, by phone and via the pre-AGM survey. Our two AGM attendee prize winners were Dr. Julie Fisher and Dr. Charlotte Foulston. The Section executive is working to solidify our priorities for the next two-to-three years, based on the input reviewed at the AGM.

AMA equity process
The AMA equity process OVERHEAD study by Deloitte was released to our Section in March, just after the RF. There are numerous concerns with the report. Similar concerns have been raised by other sections. A letter outlining our review of the report and our concerns was sent to the AMA Board of Directors and to Deloitte. Please contact me (jamichelle.bailey@ahs.ca) or an executive member if you wish to know more about the study and/or our response.

Section grant applications
We are currently reviewing applications; applicants will be notified in April.

AAP resource highlights - April
The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) offers numerous resources for pediatricians, such as books and publications, webinars, conferences and AAP policies.

Visit the American Academy of Pediatrics website for resources and information on AAP membership.

Following are some examples of recent AAP resources in their March e-bulletin:

AAP policies being issued this week
AAP News Article - News release

Ongoing Pediatric Health Care for the Child Who Has Been Maltreated - Clinical Report
AAP News Article - News Release

Top stories in AAP News
AAP: No flu vaccine preference for 2019-’20 season
The recommendation comes after the Academy reviewed current data on vaccine coverage and effectiveness and flu season characteristics. It also considered the reformulation of the nasal spray vaccine.

Bronchiolitis often improperly treated with antibiotics in EDs
In its 2014 guidelines, the Academy said antibiotics should not be used unless there is evidence of a bacterial infection.

Section of General Psychiatry
**Education**

OPT Virtual Health Learning Session: An Education Session on Methamphetamine

**Where:** April 18 | 9 a.m. - noon

For more information

Virtual Learning Journey: Opioid Dependency Treatment

Join Dr. Rob Tanguay, Dr. Laura Evans and Dr. Krishna Balachandra as they take you on a Virtual Learning Journey through Opioid Dependency Treatment, with the following series of case presentation:

May 17        iOAT (IV) SROM
June 21        How do I taper my patient to completion of OAT?

These three-hour sessions (9 a.m. - noon) will give you an opportunity to learn from experts across the province about *Opiate Use Disorder (OUD)* and **Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT)** through didactic presentations, de-identified case discussions, and Q&A periods.

Join via livestream: [https://livestream.com/accounts/3923953/events/8457082](https://livestream.com/accounts/3923953/events/8457082)  (*Note: Link active on the day of the course, only*)

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**Joint submission: Section of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry / Section of General Psychiatry**
Education

Psychiatry Online Literature Review Course (POLRC)
The POLRC is a very easy way to obtain up to 38 CME credits from the convenience of your home, while keeping up with recent developments in the field of psychiatry. The POLRC also offers an opportunity to exchange ideas with colleagues.

2019 Psychiatry Online Literature Review Course
When: Runs February 4 - May 26
Registration

‘Highlights of 2018’
The focus of the 2019 POLRC is ‘Highlights of 2018’. As in previous years, we chose seminal articles from the areas of General Psychiatry, Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Geriatric Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, that were published in 2018.

For more information:
POLRC brochure
POLRC course information and to register

Please feel free to contact me (Thomas.raedler@ahs.ca) if you require additional information.

Thomas J Raedler, MD
Mathison Centre for Mental Health Research & Education - Hotchkiss Brain Institute
Department of Psychiatry, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary