



Section News



February 2026

In this issue:

General News:

- *Alberta Find a Doctor* transitioning to *Alberta Find a Provider*
- Claim your \$2,200 CME dollars by March 31
- What were your patients' experiences with the health care system in 2025?
- Lead the future of health system sustainability
- How specialist leaders are shaping priorities for specialty care
- Promote your event through the AMA
- Report My Story — Text 587-401-9591 to share what you're seeing on the front lines
- Thank a colleague through JPAC Shine On Gratitude Program

News and updates from

Section of Family Medicine

- NEW Addiction Medicine training program at the University of Alberta starting summer 2026

Section of Internal Medicine

- Save the date — Section of Internal Medicine Annual General Meeting

Section of Medical Oncology

- Save the date — Section of Medical Oncology AGM

Section of Neurosurgery

- Save the date – Section of Neurosurgery AGM

Section of Pediatrics

- New billing sheet and tips
- Billing Tip
- Section of Pediatrics Grants now open for applications

General news

Alberta Find a Doctor transitioning to Alberta Find a Provider

By the end of February, Primary Care Alberta (PCA) will transition *Alberta Find a Doctor* to *Alberta Find a Provider*, reflecting an expanded focus on connecting Albertans with a broader range of primary care providers.

The updated website will be available at albertafindaprovider.ca, with the current URL redirecting there automatically.

As part of Alberta's health system refocus, PCA assumed ownership of the site in December 2025 and continues to work with Primary Care Networks and system partners. The Alberta Medical Association has been a key partner in this work since the site's launch in 2019. Over that time, the public-facing directory has helped Albertans connect with primary care providers and has received more than 1.2 million visits annually.

Additional updates include a refreshed design, improved search functionality and a link to the Alberta Association of Midwives directory.

Physicians and clinics that maintain a profile on this site should expect minimal changes to their user experience and can continue to update their profiles as usual.

Questions about this transition can be directed to afapinfo@primarycarealberta.ca.

Claim your \$2,200 CME dollars by March 31

Eligible AMA members can access up to \$2,200 each year for continuing medical education through the CME Program administered by the AMA under an agreement with the Government of Alberta. This funding supports a wide range of learning activities, including conferences, courses, online learning and practice improvement initiatives.

Benefit year ends March 31

The current benefit year ends March 31, making now a good time to ensure you're using the CME funding available to you.

How to submit your claim

Submit your claim online using the AMA's [electronic CME Claims Form](#).

You may alternatively claim by mail using the CME Application for Benefits form and attaching all your required documentation. [View step by step instructions for claiming by mail.](#)

Help us improve the CME claims process

We're working to better understand how members use the CME benefit and what may make it harder to claim — including time pressures, form usability and uncertainty about eligibility. Your feedback will help inform future improvements to the CME claim form and related processes.

Please take two minutes to share your input in a short survey.

[Button] [Take the 2-minute CME survey](#) [Button]

For full instructions or claim support, visit [the AMA website](#) or email CME@albertadoctors.org.

What were your patients' experiences with the health care system in 2025?

The AMA has begun surveying Albertans about their 2025 health care experiences as part of our ongoing State of Health Care (SOHC) initiative. Physicians can help spread the word by printing and displaying the survey poster in their clinics or offices.

The survey will inform the AMA's second Report Card on the State of Health Care, scheduled for release in June 2026. The [inaugural report card](#), released last year, combined public survey data with insights from the AMA's Patients First community to provide a snapshot of how Alberta's health system is performing from the patient perspective.

The 2025 survey asks Albertans to share their recent experiences accessing and navigating care across the health system. Patient input is used to help identify trends, pressures and areas where improvements are needed, and allows AMA to track changes over time.

Patients can report:

- their own health care experience, or
- the experience of a family member or friend they were supporting

The survey takes only a few minutes to complete, and participants are asked to complete one survey per incident. The survey is open until May 8, 2026.

The poster includes a QR code linking directly to the survey at PatientsFirst.ca and is designed for easy display in waiting rooms or exam areas. By posting the survey in your office, you can help ensure patients are aware of the opportunity to share their experiences and contribute to a province-wide picture of health care in Alberta.

Lead the future of health system sustainability

The AMA is inviting physicians to join two committees that will shape a more sustainable health system rooted in high-value care and clinical expertise.

These physician-led committees will review anonymized practice patterns to identify opportunities to strengthen quality clinical and billing practices. Drawing on diverse perspectives, members will nurture a collaborative learning environment to elevate practice, facilitate peer-to-peer knowledge sharing and enhance value.

Join one of these committees to help drive meaningful system improvements.

- **Quality Stewardship Committee:** Provide evidence-informed recommendations that advance clinical best practices, shape policy and elevate patient care. This committee reports to the AMA Physician Workforce & Stewardship branch. [Learn more and apply.](#)
- **Peer Review Billing Committee:** Support resource stewardship and identify and promote billing best practices. Collaborate with colleagues and sections to share knowledge, support billing consistency across the profession and provide recommendations to improve the SOMB. This committee reports to the AMA Board. [Learn more and apply.](#)

[Learn more about resource stewardship at the AMA.](#)



How specialist leaders are shaping priorities for specialty care

Specialist leaders from across Alberta are coming together on March 12 for the Specialty Care Alliance (SCA) Strategic Retreat and Specialty Care Forum (SCF) to help define shared, cross-section priorities and strengthen how specialist voices are represented within the AMA by the SCA.

These meetings bring together Specialist Section Presidents and RF Delegates to reflect on current challenges, identify common goals and provide direction on governance, engagement and advocacy on behalf of specialty physicians.

Afternoon: SCA Strategic Retreat (12–4:30 p.m.):

During the afternoon retreat, invited specialist leaders will focus on:

- strengthening the SCA's governance, mandate and representation
- improving specialist engagement
- identifying shared priorities

Lunch will be provided from 12–1 p.m.

Honoraria will be paid in accordance with the [AMA Guide for Honoraria and Expense Allowances](#).

Evening: Specialty Care Forum (5:30–9 p.m.)

The Specialty Care Forum is a separate and distinct meeting, as required under the [SCA Terms of Reference](#), and builds on the afternoon's discussions, including next steps for priorities and presentations/Q&A's with the Board and Chairs of the Compensation Committee and Stipend ARP Resolutions Working Group. Dinner will be served from 5:30–6 p.m.

Please note that the SCF is not eligible for honoraria. Watch for SCF meeting materials on the [SCA web page](#) ahead of the meeting.

IMPORTANT: RSVP reminder for invited leaders

Specialist Section Presidents and RF Delegates who have been invited are reminded to RSVP by February 26 by replying to the calendar invitation sent January 28. Alternatively, you may email specialtycarealliance@albertadoctors.org to confirm attendance for the retreat, the SCF or both. Please include any food allergies or dietary restrictions in your RSVP.

Promote your event through the AMA

Planning a webinar, conference or learning event relevant to your specialty or the broader physician community? The AMA offers an opportunity to help promote eligible events to physicians across Alberta.

Events submitted for consideration may be featured on the [AMA Webinars and Events page](#), where physicians regularly look for professional development and learning opportunities.

Events should be relevant to the physician community and include contact or registration information so members can easily learn more or register. If your event involves travel outside Alberta, please submit the details at least two weeks in advance.

[Submit your event](#)

Report My Story — Text 587-401-9591 to share what you're seeing on the front lines

Report My Story is a simple, secure text line designed for AMA members to report real experiences from daily practice. Your lived experiences help the AMA advocate for resources, policies and improvements necessary to strengthen care for all.

How to use Report My Story

If you witness a gap in patient care or see the system falling short of what patients need, text 587-401-9591. No app download required — just save the number for quick access.

[Learn more](#)

Thank a colleague through JPAC Shine On Gratitude Program.

The JPAC Shine On Gratitude Program offers physicians a simple and meaningful way to recognize colleagues for their acts of kindness — both big and small.

Complete the submission form, and we'll ensure your note of appreciation reaches the intended recipient.

Section of Family Medicine

NEW Addiction Medicine training program at the University of Alberta starting summer 2026

The new University of Alberta Enhanced Skills in Addiction Medicine (Category 2) program is a 16-week intensive training opportunity for family physicians starting summer 2026. This evidence-based, full-time program provides advanced clinical training in substance use disorders, equipping graduates to confidently integrate addiction medicine into primary care and meet the growing need for skilled, compassionate addiction physicians.

To learn more, please see the informational flyer, visit the [U of A Addiction Medicine Category 2 website](#) or contact the Program Director, Dr. Tannis Spencer, at tannis@ualberta.ca.

To reach the Section of Family Medicine President, Dr. Sarah Bates, please email familymedicine@albertadoctors.org.

Section of Internal Medicine

Save the date — Section of Internal Medicine AGM

Date: Wednesday, April 8

Time: 7 p.m.

Venue: Zoom

In accordance with the section's bylaws, the agenda and Zoom link will be communicated to section members no later than 14 days prior to the meeting.

To reach the Section of Internal Medicine President, Dr. Greg Hrynchyshyn, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

Section of Medical Oncology

Save the date — Section of Medical Oncology AGM

Date: Wednesday, March 12

Time: 4:30 – 6 p.m.

Venue: Zoom

In accordance with the section's bylaws, the agenda and Zoom link will be communicated to section members no later than 14 days prior to the meeting.

To reach the Section of Medical Oncology President, Dr. John Walker, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

Section of Neurosurgery

Save the date — Section of Neurosurgery AGM

Date: Saturday, March 14

Time: 10 a.m.

Venue: Princess Room, Banff Springs Hotel

The Notice of AGM and agenda package were sent to section members February 11.

To reach the Section of Neurosurgery President, Dr. John Kelly, please email [AMA Section Services](#)

Section of Pediatrics

New billing sheet and tips

A new billing sheet with up to date fees is available on the [section web page](#) accessible only to members. For those impacted by the sunsetting of Practice Solutions, we also have a summary review of available EMR options done by Dr. Neil Cooper available on the website.

Billing Tip

For billing efficiency and to ensure you get paid for your work, consider having a separate time sheet for work days that you can update the next day with the hours spent charting after hours. Alberta Health will audit physicians who are billing for excessive amounts of time based on the codes, e.g., billing codes add up to 16 hours of office work.

It is advisable to have a separate time sheet other than your clinic schedule to ensure that you are billing for all the work that you do after hours and billing matches the time sheet for time spent working. See the [section web page](#) for an Excel spreadsheet you can use. Alternatively, there are also some apps available for this purpose.

Section of Pediatrics Grants now open for applications

Now that we are in a new year, we are once again letting people know about the **Section of Pediatrics Grants** which are now open to members of the AMA who are also members of the Section of Pediatrics.

The grant supports research projects aimed at pediatric populations under the age of 18 years of age. Funding of up to \$10,000 per applicant is available, with a maximum of \$30,000 to be awarded in total this year. For full eligibility criteria and the application form, visit the [AMA Section of Pediatrics Grants web page](#).

Deadline for applications is midnight April 1.

To reach the Section of Pediatrics president, Dr. Sam Wong, please email [AMA Section Services](#).