

Canadian Urological Association

WINTER NEWSLETTER, 1994

Provincial Urological Chairmen to Meet

The chairmen of the CUA Economics and Manpower Committee, Irv Kuzmarov has arranged a meeting of the provincial urology chairmen to be held in Montreal on the 14th of January, 1995. It is also hoped that Dr. Logan Holtgrewe of the AUA, and Dr. Pierre Gauthier, President of the Federation of Medical Specialists of Quebec will attend, and address the meeting.

Issues which will be addressed at this meeting will include socioeconomic situations in the provinces as they relate to urology, relative value guides, urologic manpower, quotas and mobility, provincial fee schedules, and the impact of hospital consolidation on Canadian urological practice. It is the hope of the CUA, that by facilitating improved communication between Canadian urologists, urologists in different locations will be better prepared to deal with the challenges imposed by changing patterns of healthcare delivery across the country. Hopefully it will be possible to provide a full report on the deliberations of this committee in the Spring Newsletter.

Alternate Funding at Queen's University

The haphazard and uncertain funding of academic health centres has led many medical schools into progressively serious financial uncertainty. Since approximately 50-80% of the total funding for most academic medical centres is derived from fee for service income earned by the provision of clinical services and most of the other funding is government in origin, Queen's University decided to approach government to consolidate these multiple funding sources into one envelope. The insecurity of the future of the fee for service sector and the increasingly limited access to hospital resources which permits the generation of income to support academic endeavors, made it obvious that the ability to recruit and retain excellent clinical teachers, the continuation of excellent educational programmes and research activities would become progressively compromised unless a solution was found.

At Queen's University, negotiations with the Ontario Ministry of Health began in 1991. A contract for an alternative funding plan (AFP) was concluded in January, 1994 and implemented July 1st, 1994. In the Queen's plan, all sources of government funding were rolled into a single envelope, consolidating funding from the Ministry of Health for the provision of clinical services, pre-existing Ministry of Health programmes for the support of academic activities. Financial support from the Ministry of Community and Social Services for some psychiatric and social services was also included. Funding for residents' stipends was not included. However, Queen's was not successful in getting support from the Ministry of Education and Training which provides funding to the University, included in the AFP. However, guarantees were obtained from the Ministry of Health and the University that the Faculty of Medicine would neither be advantaged nor disadvantaged from having entered into an AFP so that any future changes in the funding from the Minister of Education and Training to Queen's University could only take place in the context of changes to all faculties in the province of Ontario.

The implication of this AFP has led to secure funding for the Faculty for future planning. Clinical teachers are not subject to any clawbacks or future rollbacks in fees nor to cutbacks in access to hospital services. Clinical teachers at Queen's University no longer bill the provincial health insurance plan for clinical services provided. This block funding arrangement includes all activities, teaching, research, clinical services as well as administrative support for all activities of clinical teachers. Students are now trained under a non-fee for service environment which health economists are suggesting is a better system than current fee for service arrangements. Thus, Queen's is embarking on a clinical trial for the provision of clinical services on a non-fee for service basis which will be compared to other academic health centres to determine if the health economists indeed are correct.

At Queen's, the Governance is representative of the university, hospitals and clinical teachers. The representation from clinical teachers is guaranteed under the Framework Agreement negotiated in 1991 by the Ministry of Health and the Ontario Medical Association. Clinical teachers are independent participants as partners in this arrangement with the university and the teaching hospitals. The clinical teachers have significant representation on this governing committee which sets policy for the various components of the plan to follow. Most of the authority is devolved to clinical departments who set arrangements for distribution of clinical income. Thus, various groups of physicians will set their own internal arrangements for distribution of income, work responsibilities and leave arrangements.

Approximately 95% of the clinical teachers at Queen's University are participants in the alternative funding plan as all GFT physicians were offered the opportunity of either participating in the plan or staying out of the plan in which situation, they would continue to bill the fee for service system. For these physicians, billings to the provincial plan

would be deducted from the cash flow provided to the alternative funding plan arrangement. Individual clinical teachers are still defined as professionals under Revenue Canada, and the income derived is not considered as salary, but as professional earnings. Each department is able to decide the range of benefits it may provide within the globe of funding provided to it by the central governance committee.

This is a new plan which will be of interest to academic physicians across the country and results of the evaluation will be awaited with interest. If any member of the Canadian Urological Association would like further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me in the Department of Urology, Kingston General Hospital, Kingston, Ontario, K7L 2V7

J.W.L. Wilson

Evaluation of this plan is a requirement of the contract and will be a continuous process. Initial results should be available within the next two years. As the term of the contract is three years, but renewable for a further two year term, this provides a solid funding basis for Queen's Faculty of Medicine for at least the next five years.

Canadian Urodynamic Professionals Meeting Westin Hotel, Ottawa, June 17th-18th, 1995

The Canadian Urodynamic Professionals (CANUP) will meet this year in Ottawa, Ontario on June 17 and 18, 1995 prior to the 50th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Urological Association. In addition to the scientific presentations, we are pleased to announce that our keynote speakers this year will be Dr. M. Chancellor from Philadelphia who is well renowned for his work with spinal cord injured patients and Mrs. A. Saltmarche who will be discussing the development of nurse continence services now and in the future. On June the 17th we will also be holding a workshop on advanced Urodynamics. We encourage those who are involved in the management of patients with incontinence and voiding dysfunction to attend but also extend a welcome to any physicians and residents who wish to attend.

Archival Exhibition 1995 Annual Meeting

I have been working with Dr. Norman Struthers on the development of an exhibition for the Association conference in 1995. As part of this project I have also undertaken to catalogue the archival collections of the organization.

The exhibition will attempt to review the development of urology in Canada and related history to the present day.

I would be particularly interested in images of "physicians in action", consulting with patients and performing surgery. In both cases these might be historical or current pictures. For any current images, the permission of the patients must be obtained before they could be considered for display.

In regard to objects, I am interested in locating early prototype and hand made instruments and related materials - the types of instruments often developed to solve a single problem in the field or the products or research.

If there are any questions regarding the above, I can be contacted at the address and telephone/fax numbers indicated below:

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161 St. George St., #402
Toronto, Ontario
M5R 2M3

Telephone: (416) 923-2735 Fax: (416) 926-1426

Upcoming CME Activities Announcement

Dalhousie University

International Bladder Cancer Symposium
January 27-29, 1995

Contact: Dr. David G. Bell

Visiting Professor

Dr. Andrew von Escheschenbach
Houston, Texas
May 25-27, 1995

Contact: Dr. Said A. Awad

University of Toronto

G.U. Cancer Workshop
February 17, 1995 @ 0830 - 1700 hrs.

Guests

Dr. Harry Herr
Dr. Derek Roghavan
Dr. Ian Thompson

Contact: Dr. Michael A. S. Jewett
(416) 340-4227

Location: Old Mill, Toronto

Lister Urology Rounds
February 28th, 1995 @ 1730 hrs.

Guests

Dr. Curtis Nickel (Queen's University)

**"The perplexing problem of painful prostatitis
persists: Myths and Realities"**

Location: Main Auditorium
The Toronto General Hospital
Western Division

Contact: M. Mittelman
(416) 340-4564

University of Toronto

Resident Research Day
March 30-31, 1995 @ 1700 hrs.

Contact: G. Phillips

Robson Visiting Professor

Dr. Scott MacDougal
Dept. of Urology
Massachusetts General and Harvard Medical School

Location: Vaughan Estate and the
Toronto General Hospital
General Division

Contact: Dr. Michael A. S. Jewett
(416) 340-4600

University of Manitoba

Visiting Professor

Dr. John Collins
Ottawa, Canada
January 18, 1995

Dr. John Denstedt
London, Ontario
May, 1995
(date to be finalized)

Contact: Dr. D. Hosking
(204) 787-3677

Upcoming CME Activities Announcement

University of Western Ontario

Inaugural Ceremonies of Prostate Centre

January 7, 1995

Guest Speaker: Dr. Richard Norman
"Evolution of Prostate Centres"
"Biochemical and histological
changes in the prostates of patients
treated with Finasteride"

Contact: Dr. J. Chin
(519) 663-3705

Lasers in Urology Certification Course

February 12, 1995

Contact: Dr. J. Denstedt
(519) 646-6036

Residents' Research Day

May 5-6, 1995

Visiting Professor

Guest Speaker: Dr. Darracott Vaughan

Contact: Dr. J. Chin
(519) 663-3705

Visiting Professor

(date to be confirmed)

Guest Speaker: Dr. Randall Rowland

Contact: Dr. J. Chin
(519) 663-3705

University of Ottawa

Visiting Professor

(date in January to be confirmed)

Guest Speaker: Dr. Michael P. Leonard

Contact: Dr. John Collins
(613) 761-4270

Visiting Professor

May 23-24, 1995

Guest Speaker: Dr. John Denstedt

Contact: Dr. John Collins
(613) 761-4270