

COMMITTEE MEMBERS UPDATE

- The committee appreciated the leadership of, and said farewell to Dr Ron Carere, who stepped down as SSC Co-chair representing the Ministry of Health. For the interim, Mr. Brendan Abbott, a long-standing member of the SSC has kindly agreed to step in.
- Three patient representatives, namely Ms. Airlie Pinkerton, Ms. Kimberly Strain and Ms. Teresa Whitehouse were welcomed to the committee.

CONSULTATION WITH HEALTH AUTHORITIES ON ONE-TIME FUNDING

- Over the past few months SSC consulted with health authorities about how they are engaging specialists to support strategic health system priorities. Based on the feedback and discussion, SSC has now tasked a working group with representation from health authorities, Doctors of BC and Ministry of Health to make recommendations to the full committee in November on how to support physician involvement in activities to improve patient care.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH CONSULTATION ON PRIORITY SURGICAL PROCEDURES

- The Ministry presented its previous year’s priorities for surgical procedures and consulted with the committee to set these priorities for the next year.
- The suggestion/points were taken note of and will be kept in consideration as part of MoH planning. Some suggestions included performing required research, asking the right questions and involving the right people in decision-making for setting priorities.

REVISED SSC FEE GUIDE

- A revised more user-friendly fee guide was approved by the Committee for use starting January 2019. There are no changes to the billing rules or eligibility in this guide - just easier to find information.

SSC STRATEGIC PLANNING & SYMPOSIUM

- The Committee approved the proposed engagement strategy to help develop its next three year strategic plan. Broad engagement of key stakeholders including: physicians, health authorities and ministry partners will be considered to inform future planning.
- As part of the engagement, the Committee approved funding for a specialist symposium (a partnership between SSC and the Specialists of BC) to take place in Vancouver on January 18, 2019. This Symposium is aimed at receiving input from specialist physicians across the province to help inform SSC’s three-year strategic plan from 2020-23.

MEASUREMENT SYSTEM FOR PHYSICIAN QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (MSPQI)

- MSPQI is a new initiative led by a partnership between the Ministry of Health, Doctors of BC and BC health authorities, with support from the BC Patient Safety & Quality Council.
- The initiative aims to make relevant data more accessible for physicians, administrators and policy makers to better support the improvement and evaluation of health care.
- The committee approved the budget and encouraged involvement of the specialist physicians in this initiative



The **Specialist Services Committee (SSC)** is one of four Joint Collaborative Committees representing a partnership of Doctors of BC and the government of BC. SSC aims to improve patient care by engaging physicians to:

- collaborate within the health system
- lead quality improvement initiatives
- deliver high quality services with SSC