

SSC MEETING KEY HIGHLIGHTS: Nov 17, 2022

Physician Master Agreement

An update on the PMA was provided to the SSC. Member voting is currently underway with results to be announced in December.

Emergency medicine challenges

Dr Sam Bugis provided an update on the work of the Specialist Section Heads & Emergency Medicine Task Group. Emergency medicine continues to face issues that have been exacerbated by the pandemic and the current health care crisis. The group discussed challenges and proposed solutions, including increasing hospital beds and more team-based support. The SSC had a robust discussion, including points about insufficient care for mental health patients, lack of access to primary care, and resources to increase capacity. There may be opportunities for SSC to support EM physicians and others to implement improvement priorities agreed to by the Task Group.

Compassionate leadership training program

A Compassionate Leadership Training Program is being offered to each of the JCCs, including a cohort for SSC members. Further information will be shared with SSC.

SSC workplan 2023-2024

Kirsten Smillie presented SSC's 2023-2024 workplan and budget. The draft was approved pending specific feedback from the committee. SSC Liaisons provided updates on initiatives:

- Enhancing Access initiative will continue with its revised delivery, transitioning from a cohort model to an approach focused on project development phases
- The Specialist Team Care collaborative continues to move ahead
- Surgical Patient Optimization Collaborative (SPOC) has received continued support for next phase. The Perioperative Clinical Action Network (PCAN) will support physicians and surgical teams to engage with each other along with health authority and Ministry of Health partners to input into and help implement the surgical strategy. Surgical Innovation fund will support QI projects.
- Community based specialists will continue focused engagement to increase number of specialists involved.
- Physician wellness and satisfaction: An advisory group will be created. Initiative is currently accepting innovative proposals. Goal is to increase awareness of existing offerings across the JCCs, tighten messaging/accessibility. Continue emerging EDI work.

- Spreading Quality Improvement (SQI) will focus on existing 18 projects and provincial spread and will also potentially support spread of successful Shared Care projects
- Physician Quality Improvement (PQI) will continue to build capability across the system, support professional development to enhance delivery and supports, and leverage QI trained doctors in health system priorities. The initiative will support alumni engagements in co-designed solutions that address system level issues and demonstrate value of QI through implementation of KPIs showing impact.

Facility Engagement

Cindy Myles presented on the FE workplan, including strengths and opportunities. Key themes: Local and regional relationships and structures, knowledge sharing, and MSA capacity building. Foster collaboration through regional engagement strategy and FE knowledge sharing. Coordinate provincial, DofBC/JCC supports.

Presentation: A female specialist perspective

Dr Daisy Dulay (Victoria Cardiologist) gave a powerful presentation about her experience with physician burnout and the factors that drove her to take a leave of absence. She addressed the fear of repercussions for her career and broached solutions to increase physician wellness for specialists: modeling behavior, speaking out, changing the culture, discussions about EDI and male-dominated specialties, addressing under employment, reducing silos.

Highlighting physician engagement in BC

Kirsten Smillie and Geoff Schierbeck presented an infographic and videos highlighting the breadth of physician engagement across BC through SSC initiatives.

Specialist Symposium 2023 brainstorm

The committee brainstormed themes and workplan linkages for the 2023 Specialist Symposium event, incorporating feedback from past events.

Welcome & Farewells The SSC welcomed new standing guest Adriane King (HEABC), and thanked departing members Dr Elisabeth Baerg Hall (Shared Care representative) and Christine Tam (Doctors of BC communications) for their valuable contributions to SSC.



The Specialist Services Committee (SSC) is one of four Joint Collaborative Committees (JCC) representing a partnership of Doctors of BC and BC Government. 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

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