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Updates

UPDATE # 6

November 19, 1997

2001

[September 7](#)

Phase II Consultations Continue

2000

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Phase II - Determination of a Methodology - of the RBRVS Commission's mandate continues. The week of November 10-14 was spent meeting with most of the OMA Sections that had provided a written submission. The following sections responded to the Commission's invitation to meet and further expand on their written submissions:

Allergy & Clinical Immunology
 Anaesthesia
 Dermatology
 Diagnostic Imaging
 Endocrinology & Metabolism
 Gastroenterology
 General & Family Practice
 General Surgery
 Genetics
 Haematology & Medical Oncology
 Laboratory Medicine
 Nephrology
 Neurology
 Neurosurgery
 Nuclear Medicine
 Obstetrics & Gynaecology / Reproductive Biology
 Ophthalmology
 Orthopaedic Surgery
 Otolaryngology / Sleep Disorders
 Paediatrics
 Psychiatry
 Radiation Oncology
 Respiratory Diseases
 Rheumatology
 Rural Practice
 Urology

The meetings were extremely productive, adding much substance, detail and clarification to the written submissions already received. Among the many issues discussed during each of the meetings were: Section knowledge and opinion of

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existing methodologies, resource inputs and their weighting, unbundling, the concepts of grading scales and cross linking, practice costs, technical fees, opportunity costs, redefining the Schedule, dispute resolution and general communications.

Those Sections that met with the Commission last week and wish to clarify or add to their previous submission must have those written submissions in to the Commission offices no later than Monday, December 1, 1997.

Please follow the previous format of submitting 10 copies as well as a diskette version of your submission for posting on the Website.

Further Commission meetings

Two weeks ago Dr. Ron Smuckler and Dr. David Peachey met with representatives of the British Columbia government, the BCMA and consultants and others involved in the B.C. relative value process. The discussions and insights provided by the B.C. representatives will assist us as we progress through our mandate.

Last week Commission members met again with the OMA's Executive Director, Economics, Mr. Darrel Weinkauf to discuss his written submission, the OMA attempts at developing a RVS and his recommendations concerning this process.

Late this week Commission members will be meeting with representatives of the American Medical Association in Chicago to learn more about the U.S. experience with RBRVS.

Advice and Support

The Commission is receiving opinion and advice from Dr. David Streiner, Professor, Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Professor, Department of Psychiatry, McMaster University. He, as well as Commission members, have also had discussions with many of the 'authors' and experts behind the various existing RVS methodologies.

Mr. Bill Teatero, Fee-for-Service Policy Advisor, Ministry of Health, has been seconded to the RBRVS Commission to assist us in our mandate. In addition, Mr. Jim Tsitanidis, OMA Director of Physician Reimbursement Policies, Department of Economics, will also be available to assist and advise the Commission beginning this week.

Update on RBRVS Commission Website

The Commission's Website continues to expand. In addition to posting any recommended methodologies we are also in the process of posting all of the Phase II submissions received from Sections. A number of submissions were sent in without a diskette version complicating efforts to post them on the Website. , but a majority of the submissions are now posted.

A number of Section representatives have mentioned that a chat page on the Website would be a useful addition. The Commission's Website is intended to

provide information accessible to the public. We encourage physicians and Section representatives to continue using the OMA Members' Home Page for dialogue and debate.

Please continue to give us your suggestions on how we can make the Website more useful and accessible to you and your colleagues. We encourage you to assist us in communicating with all physicians. For copies of past updates, Section submissions and other available information visit the Website at www.rbrvs.on.ca