

Dermatology

Association of Ontario

Jan 21, 2014

Dear Ms. Ansara,

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Vice-

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Jennifer

Beecker

I have consulted with other members of the Dermatology Association of Ontario who have in turn discussed the issue with their colleagues. Particularly influential were the opinions of our members in Pediatric Dermatology whose patients would be the population in whom a medical exemption would be required.

Our position was also informed by the expert advice of Dr. Cheryl Rosen, an expert in Photomedicine.

At this time, the DAO does not support a medical exemption for the proposed legislation.

Our position is informed by

1) Operators of commercial tanning facilities are not medical professionals that have knowledge of skin disease. It would be a disservice to our patients to place a part of their care into untrained hands. We worry about oversight, regulation, and maintenance of standards.

2) Medical phototherapy is of a different wavelength than is provided in commercial tanning facilities.

3) Solving the problem of access to phototherapy should not be by enlisting commercial tanning facilities. The answer is in the provision of safe and effective phototherapy to patients that need it by increasing the availability of medical grade facilities. This is particularly the case in a pediatric population.

Best regards,

David N. Adam MD FRCPC DABD
President, Dermatology Association of Ontario
Medical Director, Baywood Dermatology
Active Staff, St. Michael's Hospital
Assistant Professor, University of Toronto

C/O DR. DAVID N. ADAM

95 BAYLY ST. WEST, G-02, AJAX, ONTARIO L1S 7K8