

Dermatology

Association of Ontario

President

David N. Adam

Dear Colleagues,

Vice-President

Melinda
Gooderham

The Executive of the Dermatology Association of Ontario (DAO) has carefully considered the Tentative Physician Services Agreement (TPSA) that has been negotiated between the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC). We have decided to advise our membership to vote against this deal. Moreover we encourage our members to reach out to their colleagues in other specialties to voice concern over this proposed deal and encourage them to vote NO as well.

Secretary and Treasurer

Kim A. Papp

Without even exploring the fact that this TPSA does not deal with binding arbitration, was negotiated in secret, includes permanent cuts to the Schedule of Benefits (that have not yet been defined) and includes other "modernizations" of the fee schedule it is the actual core of this deal which is rotten and the principles on which it is based.

Counselors

Academic

Cheryl Rosen

When negotiations broke off with the MOHLTC in 2014 unilateral cuts were imposed on Ontario's doctors. These cuts were implemented in a step-wise fashion. The first step was to establish the total expenditures by the province on physician remuneration. This is termed the Physicians Services Budget (PSB). Historically, health care utilization in the province has increased by 3.2% annually (OMAs figures). The MOHLTC in 2014 decreed that they would only fund increases in the PSB by 1.25% per year. If the PSB exceeded the 2014 amount plus 1.25% then the excess amount would be recovered from Ontario's doctors in the form of clawbacks. Of course, health care costs have continued to increase and the PSB has increased by more than 1.25% per year which has led to the clawbacks we are all experiencing.

Contact

Dermatitis
Joel Dekoven

Cosmetic

Martie Gidon

Resident

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Surgery

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Dermopath

Esiahas
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It is important to highlight this principle with a hypothetical. Let us assume that the City of Toronto allocates 100 million dollars per year to finance the Fire Department. Let us further assume that in a given year there is an inordinate amount of fires. Consequently the firefighters end up working overtime, pulling people out of burning buildings, saving lives and property. The total costs to the city in that year ends up being 110 million dollars. Were firefighters to have an agreement in place that was similar to the TPSA, the City of Toronto would retroactively claw back fire fighters earnings by 10%. Right now this injustice occurs on the basis of unilateral actions by the Ontario government. The only worse situation would be for Ontario's doctors to agree to this preposterous arrangement.

Regional

GTA

Chuck Lynde
John Kraft
(Shared)

If ratified, the TPSA that is before us would enshrine the principle that it is Ontario's doctors who must shoulder the costs of a burgeoning health care system. This is unfair and unjust. Signing this agreement is akin to putting a fiscal noose around ones own neck. The costs of the health care system are the responsibilities of all tax paying Ontarians, not just doctors.

Between July 27th and August 3rd please have your voices heard. Be sure to vote down this proposed deal.

Northern Ontario

Lyne Giroux

Sincerely,

SW Ontario

Darryl Toth



Ottawa/ON East

Jennifer
Beecker

David N. Adam MD FRCPC
President

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