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## February 2024

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### General news

#### **Wanted: Physician input on WCB Alberta experiences**

The AMA is seeking member input in anticipation of negotiations with the Workers' Compensation Board – Alberta. We want to hear about your experiences working with WCB-Alberta, including thoughts regarding recent changes; concerns, conflicts, and challenges; opportunities for improved process; and any other thoughts you may have that we could bring forward to the negotiating table when we meet.

Please get in touch with us at [wcbnegotiations@albertadoctors.org](mailto:wcbnegotiations@albertadoctors.org). We sincerely thank you in advance for providing your valuable feedback.

Join the internal AMA-WCB negotiating committee.

We are currently recruiting physician members for our internal AMA-WCB negotiating committee. Applications must be received by March 11th.

[View the committee description and apply.](#)

### **Updated fax number for Calgary zone urology referrals issue**

Due to an issue with an Alberta Health Services (AHS) decommissioned fax line, some referrals for urology consults in the Calgary Zone were not received from **Aug. 9, 2023, to Jan. 1, 2024.**

AHS has taken immediate steps to investigate the issue and is asking primary care providers to check to ensure their patients aren't affected.

[Read what you need to do.](#)

### **Thank a colleague! JPAC Shine On Gratitude Program**

The JPAC Shine On Gratitude Program gives physicians the opportunity to thank their colleagues for their acts of kindness, big and small. The process is as quick and easy as sending an email.

Complete the [submission form](#) and we will make sure the message gets to the person you want to express your appreciation to.

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## **Section of Family Medicine and Rural Medicine**

### **Declare yourself “in” for panel management support funding**

The [Panel Management Support Program \(PMSP\)](#) is a temporary program, funded by Alberta Health, which provides eligible physicians financial support for costs related to panel management and practice improvement activities. Up to \$10,000 per physician practice is now available to help manage patient panels.

If you are eligible for this funding, you would have received an email on February 12 from Laura Matchett, AMA Operations Administrator. Please remember to complete the online declaration form via your Member Dashboard.

If you have questions related to the Panel Management Support Program, please email [ciicpar@albertadoctors.org](mailto:ciicpar@albertadoctors.org).

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## **Section of General Psychiatry**

### **2024 Elections for the APA and Section of General Psychiatry Executives**

The Alberta Psychiatric Association and Section of General Psychiatry seek volunteers to join active and committed executives! We strive to provide leadership, support and advocacy for Alberta psychiatrists. The executives meet five times per year including an in-person meeting at the APA Conference.

Meetings are generally 2-3 hours with 1-2 hours pre-reading and follow-up. Issue-specific ad hoc meetings may be called for those who can attend.

While the APA Executive and the Section of General Psychiatry Executive are separate bodies, they generally share executive members and meeting dates/times. However, interested individuals can put their name forward for a role on either executive.

Can you picture joining our group? Positions that are up for election at the AGM on March 23 & 24, 2024, during the annual APA Scientific Conference in Banff include:

**APA Executive:** Secretary Treasurer, Members-at-Large (4 positions)

**Section of General Psychiatry Executive:** Secretary Treasurer, Members-at-Large (4 positions)

*\*At last year's AGM, we expanded the number of Members-At-Large positions. Three of these positions have incumbents.*

We hope you will seriously consider joining our executives. We have worked hard to expand and diversify our executives to represent different geographic zones, rural vs. urban, academic vs. community psychiatrist, and welcome new voices.

If you would like to learn more, please email [info@albertapsych.org](mailto:info@albertapsych.org) no later than Friday, March 15, 2024. We look forward to hearing from you!

To reach the Section of General Psychiatry President, Dr. Sudhakar Sivapalan, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

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## Section of Occupational Medicine

### Occupational Medicine Conference (in person or virtual)

**Date:** Friday, April 12

**Location:** Lister Centre (Glacier Room), University of Alberta, 87 Ave and 116 St., Edmonton

**Registration:** [via this link](#)

The Section of Occupational Medicine is sponsoring an Occupational Medicine Conference on Friday, April 12, 2024. The conference may be attended virtually (Zoom) or in-person at Lister Centre (Glacier Room), at the University of Alberta.

This Occupational Medicine Conference has been certified by the College of Family Physicians of Canada for up to 6 Mainpro+ credits.

Further details and the conference schedule can be found [here](#).

To reach the Section of Occupational Medicine President, Dr. Sebastian Straube, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

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## Section of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery

## Save the date – Section of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery AGM

**Dates:** Friday, March 8

**Time:** 1:30 p.m.

**Location:** Ivor Petrak Room, Banff Springs Hotel

Notice of the Annual General Meeting, in addition to the [agenda](#), was sent to section members on February 22.

To reach the Section of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery President, Dr. Trina Rosaasen, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

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