

SEAMO NEWSLETTER

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ACADEMIC ACCOUNTABILITY

The purpose of SEAMO is to obtain and provide the physician human resources necessary to meet the clinical and academic requirements of the three hospitals and the University. Medical school expansion and the institutional self-study prepared for the LCME visit have identified the need to better deploy our academic resources. At the meeting of the Governing Committee November 27, Governors asked that the CEO:

- develop processes to ensure that the academic deliverables of SEAMO are more explicitly enunciated;
- ensure the measurement of deliverables and the reporting to SEAMO;
- ensure that budgets identify the multiple missions to be sub-served.

It was noted that the Advisory Committee on Departmental Deliverables will play a key role in these accountability processes.

PROFESSIONAL APPEALS COMMITTEE

The SEAMO Governing Committee has amended the Terms of Reference for the SEAMO Professional Appeals Committee so as to allow an appeal of a decision made by a Department's Appeal Committee by either the individual or **by the Department Head** on behalf of the Department. It was noted that an appeal on a matter of compensation does not result in SEAMO centrally shouldering the burden of additional compensation which may be awarded but, rather, it is the other members of the clinical unit who would bear the burden of providing the individual with additional compensation. Fairness requires that the department members collectively maintain the right to determine if rules were fairly and appropriately applied in a specific case.

CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

SEAMO is entitled to funding based on the fee code adjustments that occur in each fiscal year. Based on shadow billing, the Contract provides for payment equivalent to the increases in fees under the OMA Ministry Framework Agreement. ("Appendix L flow-through"). The inability of OHIP data

processing to automate these payments has resulted in the development of an alternative method for calculating Appendix L flow-through. This method is being reviewed by the Clinical Teachers' Association before its acceptance. Without prejudice to the outcome of this review, the Ministry has now provided SEAMO with an interim payment of approximately \$500,000. This payment will be distributed to departments based on the corresponding departmental claims submission.

Several other issues related to contract management were reported to SEAMO Governors:

- an additional position in Gynaecological Oncology was approved by the Ministry of Health as part of the "harmonization" with the province-wide Gynaecologic Oncology Alternative Funding Agreement;
- the Ministry has agreed to increase the shadow billing incentive fund for Emergency Medicine effective 2006 September 01 to 15% with a further increase on 2007 August 01 to 25% in accordance with "harmonization" with the province-wide Emergency Department Alternative Funding Agreement;
- the Ministry has agreed that the shadow billing incentive payments related to in-patient diagnostics will be backdated to 2006 April 01. Originally, it had been determined by the Ministry that the start date would be 2006 September 01.

CTAQ MEETING WITH GRAHAM SCOTT

Graham Scott, Chair of the provincial AHSC AFP Task Force, will be meeting with the SEAMO Governors on December 18 and with the Clinical Teachers' Association of Queens in Etherington Hall, December 19 at 7:30 am. Mr. Scott will discuss Task Force progress towards a province-wide AFA for academic medicine.