



March 3, 2010

Dear Colleagues,

Annual General Meeting

The 3rd AGM will occur on Friday, March 19, 2010 from 1:00 - 2:00pm. This is during the Whistler Critical Care Conference (March 17-20, 2010). The conference website is www.canadiancriticalcare.ca. Elections for all positions within the BCSCCM executive will occur.

If there are issues that you feel should be addressed as group, or have interest in a specific topic that you would like to see advanced, please let us know. We exist to further the interests of all BC critical care physicians and want your input and guidance as we go forward. Naturally, we may volunteer you to help!

Journal Club

The next BCSCCM Journal Club is on March 31, 2010 at La Terrazza. (Vancouver). Please see the attached driving directions and please contact Andrea.Lovely@vch.ca to RSVP. Again, if you are interested in hosting a journal club in your area, please contact us (henderson@bcscm.ca) and we will help organize.

Discussion of Organ Donation and Organ Transplantation Processes

During the Whistler Conference (March 19, 0630hrs), there will be an early morning discussion about the design for a national system for organ and tissue donation and transplantation (OTDT) that is being developed by Canadian Blood Services, in collaboration with the stakeholder community. This is an issue that several BCSCCM members have raised in past meetings and we hope that you will be there so provide your input. Please see the attached background document and **RSVP to expert.engagement@blood.ca by March 16, 2010; Subject Line: "CCCS"**.

Retroactive and Forward Fee Increases

As we notified you in our last letter, we have secured a retroactive fee increase for the CCM fee codes as well as fee increases. The final increase will occur in April 2010.

MSP Preamble Discussions

We met with a consultant from Medical Services Plan to discuss altering the preamble to the critical care section of the Fee Guide. In accordance with issues brought to us by the BCSCCM membership, we requested revisions around intra-hospital transfers, continuous renal replacement therapy and total parenteral nutrition. Our submissions were accepted by MSP and the Tariff Committee. Beginning April 1st, 2010 there will be new fees for the provision of CRRT and ECMO. This will be discussed in detail at the AGM.

New Fee Proposals

Critical Care Medicine is now a separate specialty with the Society of Specialist Physicians and Surgeons and is recognized as such by MSP. We are required to develop our own consultation fees which may be billed by all physicians recognized by MSP/BC College as specialists in Critical Care Medicine. We have developed a Consult Fee, a Repeat Consult Fee and a Limited Consult Fee which parallel the analogous Internal Medicine Codes. Additionally, we are proposing an "End of Life/Second Opinion" fee which will allow for a detailed second opinion in difficult ethical situations.

Website

There is a great deal of updated content on our society website (www.bcscm.ca). Specifically, I have created a password protected Members Area that contains an extensive collection of guidelines and protocols relevant to critical care practice. There is a great deal of valuable information that can be shared in this area. We have also posted the slides from our past video/teleconferences here, as well as the minutes of past Executive Meetings and AGMs. As noted the Members Area is password protected. The current user name is [medicine](#) and the current password is [bc123](#).

Sincerely,

William Henderson, MD, FRCPC
President and Chair
BC Society of Critical Care Medicine