Chapter 4: Provincial Pages

Ontario

The Ontario Medical Association (OMA) represents the political, clinical and economic interests of the province’s medical profession. By choosing to practise in Ontario, you will have access to the unique program and service offerings of the OMA.

SUPPORTING MEMBERS’ PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LIVES

- OMA Advantages Affinity Program: OMA members now have more options and benefits from more companies than ever before. Enjoy preferred rates and services for members in the following categories: travel and leisure, wireless communications, office services (counter and IT support), moving and relocation services, fitness and health, auto purchase, lease and sharing – with more to come.
- OMA Insurance: Offers a complete portfolio of insurance solutions designed to meet the unique needs of medical students, residents, physicians and their families. Strictly not for profit, the non-commissioned team can focus exclusively on objective advice and service, using the group buying power of well over half of Ontario and Atlantic physicians to provide medical professionals with the right insurance coverage at every stage of their career.
- Physician Health Program: Provides a range of confidential direct services to support the health, well-being and resilience of physicians, residents and medical students.
- Publications: The Ontario Medical Review is the OMA’s flagship publication, and a leading source of vital professional, economic, practice management, legislative, and health policy information affecting the medical profession in Ontario. Scrub-In is the OMA’s award-winning medical student publication, showcasing student-driven content that reflects areas of specific interest and concern to medical students across the province.

ADVOCATING FOR DOCTORS AND PROMOTING BETTER PATIENT CARE

- Health System Programs: Encompass a broad range of services that are designed to inspire and equip Ontario’s physicians to be part of, or respond to initiatives or changes in Ontario’s health care system.
- Health Promotions Initiatives: Improve the health of Ontarians on behalf of Ontario’s physicians through a focus on advocacy for health protective policies and the development of educational material for patients on a variety of population health issues.
- Empowering Health Care Advocates: The OMA’s network of Health Care Advocates is a grassroots lobbying initiative for Ontario’s doctors. As physicians, you are trusted and respected leaders in health care who know what’s best for your patients and your community. As Health Care Advocates, part of your role will be to develop a relationship with your MPP as it is critical to influencing government policy. Health Care Advocates are provided skills training in the areas of advocacy, government, media and social media relations.
- Physician and Stakeholder Engagement: Delivers enhanced engagement strategies to support the work of the OMA. It identifies areas for enhanced participation by members, including medical special interest groups, students, residents, women physicians and system stakeholders, and in response implements appropriate targeted engagement strategies. Regional Managers and Constituency Services are within this portfolio. The work of PSE is informed by emerging issues, health programs implementation, health promotion and policy issues consultation as appropriate.
- Provincial Initiatives: Several benefit programs that can be accessed through the MOHTC include: Medical Liability Protection, Pregnancy & Parental Leave Program, Continuing Medical Education, Northern Physician Retention Initiative, and Resident Loan Interest Relief Program.

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Windham
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Quebec

The Quebec Medical Association (QMA) is the only organization in Quebec that unites the province’s entire medical profession — medical students, residents, and practitioners as well as retired general practitioners and specialists.

The QMA promotes medical leadership based on the values and principles of professionalism and organization the medical profession to take positions and actions to improve the health care system and the well-being of the population. Thanks to its national affiliation, the QMA offers its members a variety of products and services, including online clinical resources, personalized financial management advice and flexible insurance plans designed for physicians. In Quebec, the Collège des médecins du Québec (CMQ) is responsible for delivering practice licenses.

THE QMA: FOR THE PROFESSION

Free from any affiliation, the QMA advocates for improved health care accessibility and quality, and plays a critical role in changes to Quebec’s health care system. The QMA is on the ground, listening to its members and reflecting their concerns, including on the following issues:

- The organization and governance of the health network (Bill 10).
- Access to health care and assisted procreation (Bill 20).
- Front-line work on the issue of incidental fees.
- Overdiagnosis: Considering that 18% to 37% of total health expenses in Quebec are attributable to non-required care, the QMA strives to raise awareness about over-diagnosis and over-treatment. The QMA launched the Choisir avec soin campaign, the French language version of Choosing Wisely Canada. Among other advances, the campaign has led to the creation of committees charged with reducing unnecessary care in several health care facilities in the province and played a role in attracting the 2017 International Preventing Overdiagnosis conference to Quebec City.
- Professionalism: In the current context where the profession and the status of physicians in society is being questioned, the QMA is offering meeting, discussion and decision-making opportunities to physicians, such as the 2015 Convention (The Medical Profession Time for a New Social Contract), the 2015 Symposium for Physician Executives (Physician Executives at the Centre of Change), 2016 Convention (Clinical Governance: Time to Decide), and the 2016 Symposium for Physician Executives (Managing is Adapting).
- Medical aid in dying: After the majority of citizens and physicians in Quebec expressed their support for medical aid in dying, the QMA submitted a brief to a parliamentary committee on end-of-life care, and also filed motions with the parliamentary committee on end-of-life care, and also filed motions with the CMA’s General Council, to ensure respect for the population’s wishes while upholding the rights of physicians.

A UNIQUE OFFER OF MEDICAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Many physicians in leadership positions trust the QMA’s expertise in medical leadership. The QMA is happy to offer a variety of training sessions to better equip them:

- PJ Leadership Program: Five two-to-three-day courses for the development of leadership skills
- Seminars: One-day training sessions on current issues to meet specific needs

OTHER USEFUL URLS

Collège des médecins du Québec: cmq.org/
Ministère de la Santé et des Services Sociaux: msss.gouv.qc.ca
Québec Physicians’ Health Program: www.pamq.org/en/