



FPS4BC

Inviting Family Physicians to Practice in BC

British Columbia wants recently qualified family physicians, and is providing funding to make that happen.

The provincial government and the BC Medical Association have developed the *FPS4BC Program* to attract and retain family physicians in the province.

The BC government and the BCMA allocated \$10 million to provide financial incentives for recently graduated family physicians to establish practice in a community of identified need.

What the Program Provides

Each qualifying physician is eligible for a maximum of \$100,000. Within the maximum allowance, physicians can include any of the following options in any mix that meets their needs:

- Student Debt repayment – up to \$40,000.
- Funding to set up or join a group practice (e.g., leasehold improvements, capital costs, costs for a practice mentor or moving costs, and with consideration for solo for remote or rural areas) – up to \$40,000 per physician.
- A New Practice Supplement for the first 26 weeks of practice of \$2,000/week (total \$52,000).

A bonus of \$1,500 will be provided to those physicians who obtain full hospital privileges in the designated community.

If you think you might be interested in the program, contact fps4bc@gov.bc.ca or 250-952-1925 for more information.

www.primaryhealthcarebc.ca



college library

PIER on PDA: Just another acronymic phrase?

Acronyms are an essential, though sometimes baffling, part of the medical lexicon. In a world in which speed and brevity are crucial to communication, they provide us with short forms for complicated concepts that convey a message but don't take up too much space. PIER on PDA might be thought of as the electronic embodiment of this idea: succinct clinical knowledge available with a minimum of fuss.

You probably have a good idea of what a PDA is, but what about PIER? The American College of Physicians produces an online evidence-based decision support tool, Physicians' Information and Education Resource (PIER), to aid practitioners with up-to-date information on the diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis of frequently encountered disorders. The College Library provides BC physicians with access to this resource through its online subscription to STAT!Ref. In the summer of 2007, the Library purchased access to a PDA downloadable version of the same reference tool. For information on system requirements and procedures for downloading, just go to the College's web site, www.cpsbc.ca, click on "Library," "Electronic Journals and Books," scroll down to "Download STAT!Ref's PIER on PDA," and follow the instructions.

If you would like an e-mail reminder to download the text when each new monthly updated version becomes available, just ask the Library to add your name to the list.

Questions? Phone Karen MacDonell or Ida Bradd at the Library (604 733-6671).

And if you have trouble with those pesky acronyms, STAT!Ref has an online version of *Stedman's Medical Dictionary* to help out.

—Linda Clendenning, Karen MacDonell, Judy Neill
Librarians/Co-Managers

Do you have an article idea?

One of the primary goals of the BC Medical Journal is to publish high-quality clinical and review articles by BC authors. If you have an idea for an article you would like to write, please consult our Guidelines for Authors, write it, and send it in for review by our Editorial Board. If you would like to discuss it first, contact us either by phone (604 638-2814), e-mail (journal@bcma.bc.ca), or post (BCMJ, 115-1665 West Broadway, Vancouver BC V6J 5A4). Our Guidelines for Authors document is available at www.bcmj.org under the heading BC Medical Journal/Guidelines & Resources. We encourage submission from both experienced and first-time authors. If you have an idea that would require several articles to cover properly, we would also be pleased to discuss concepts for theme issues.