

## What's Up, Doc?: WorkSafeBC/UBC 8th Annual Conference

**T**he joint WorkSafeBC/UBC Annual Physician Education Conference, What's Up, Doc?, will be held on Saturday, 8 December 2007, at the Vancouver Marriott Pinnacle Downtown Hotel. It will offer a variety of plenary sessions and small group workshops, as well as practice-based small group learning, a physical examination skills review for the office setting, and a worksite assessment tour. This year, the conference will include Mainpro-C workshops developed by the Foundation for Medical Practice (other credits to be advised). A complete spousal/family program will also be available.

The conference will cover a variety of topics relating not only to diagnosis and treatment of patients with work-related injuries and illnesses, but also to your personal occupational well-being. Early registration is recommended, as workshops and the worksite assessment tour have limited space.

### Plenary sessions

- Preventing Needless Disability and Helping Patients Stay Employed—Jennifer Christian, MD, board-certified in occupational medicine, with a master's in public health, chaired the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine committee that developed the recent landmark guideline of the same name.
- Problems/Pitfalls in Orthopaedic Office Practice: Commonly Missed Diagnoses or How to Stay Out of Court—Gerard McKenzie, MD, medical director of the Ambulatory Surgical Clinic in Vancouver, member of the International Association

for the Study of Pain and the Canadian Pain Society, assistant clinical professor in the Department of Orthopaedics at UBC, and an instructor at St. Paul's Hospital.

- Physicians: Our Occupational Hazards and Surviving a Career in Medicine—Paul Farnan, MB, BCh, CCFP, ASAM Cert., former executive director of the Physician Health Program of BC.
- Medical Legal Issues Pertaining to Return-to-Work: The CMPA's Perspective—Jacques Guilbert, MD, physician risk manager, Risk Management Services, Canadian Medical Protective Association, and an expert on medicolegal issues.

### Workshops

- Two practice-based small group learning (PBSG) workshops, hosted by the Foundation for Medical Practice Education and preapproved for two Mainpro-C credits: Approaches to Low Back Pain and Work-Related Asthma. Both workshops will be facilitated by Tanya Fairweather, MD, CCFP, UBC Family Practice Centre, faculty coordinator for the UBC Vancouver academic curriculum.
- Assessing the Dizzy Patient—Eytan David, MD, LMCC, FRCSC, with a postgraduate residency at the University of Western Ontario, Department of Otolaryngology, and neurotology-skull base surgery fellowship from the University of Toronto. He has been a clinical instructor of temporal bone dissection courses at the University of British Columbia, University of Toronto, and Wayne State University, and is an expert speaker on topics such as common and complicated causes of dizziness, vertigo, and laryngeal

trauma and inhalation injuries.

- Motivational Interviewing Techniques—Chris Dunn, PhD, counseling psychologist and associate professor in psychiatry and behavioral sciences at the University of Washington School of Medicine; specializes in training medical practitioners to use a brief version of motivational interviewing to help patients manage chronic illnesses.
- Opiates Rising: Prescribing for Chronic Non-Cancer Pain—Launette Rieb, MD, FCFP, CSAM, ASAM, family physician, addiction medicine specialist, clinical assistant professor at UBC, as well as practitioner at a community health centre, private methadone clinic, and chronic pain clinic.
- Mitigating Disability: Negotiating Safe and Healthy Return-to-Work Plans for Patients—co-facilitated by WorkSafeBC nursing staff and Peter Rothfels, BEd, MD, senior medical advisor at WorkSafeBC, and member of ASAM.

### Worksite assessment

This year's worksite assessment tour will be at the Canada Post Processing Plant in downtown Vancouver and will offer a chance to see what's involved in sorting and processing mail, potential exposures for RSI, opportunities for job modifications, and other return-to-work options.

### Find out more

For more information on What's Up, Doc?, the 8th Annual WorkSafeBC Physician Education Conference, contact Ms Christine Lynn at 604 276-3329 or toll free at 1 877 633-6233.

—Don Graham, MD, CCFP  
WorkSafeBC Chief Medical Officer