

## BCM J

BC Medical Journal

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### Re: Dr Sydney Friedman

I commend Dr Brian Day for his article celebrating Dr Sydney Friedman's wonderful contribution to the UBC medical school [*BCM J* 2014;56:480-481]. I was in one of the early classes at UBC and was recruited by Dr Friedman as a summer student in research—an opportunity that has served me well throughout my long career at UBC Pathology.

What should be added and emphasized is that the most current and continuing initiative of Dr Friedman's is the Friedman Scholars Program, which encourages broad interests in graduate students and provides opportunities for future health sciences scholars to learn from global experts. Dr Friedman created the Scholars Program via a substantial personal donation. All of us who

have benefited through interactions as students or practitioners can help by donating to the Friedman Scholars Fund. As a current board member of the foundation, I encourage all to help too! If you need any information about the Friedman Scholars Program or how to donate, please contact John Fleming at [john.fleming@ubc.ca](mailto:john.fleming@ubc.ca) or call 604 822-8767.

—David F. Hardwick, MD  
Vancouver

### Re: Measuring and improving quality of care in family practice

Dr Martin Dawes is to be congratulated for his timely and scholarly article promoting a living and local method of family practice review and quality improvement [*BCM J* 2014;56:504-506]. Perhaps this already happens

in some group practices and departments, but my sense is that it is not widespread or systematic. The emphasis on performing this locally, led by active practitioners, is critical for success in my view. Our EMRs can be questioned and trawled for the data, so the remaining limiting factors are time and motivation.

I accept that, as publicly paid doctors, we have a responsibility to government to demonstrate value for money and quality improvement. Perhaps Doctors of BC would consider developing a module for distribution on questioning our EMRs for salient data and modeling the group meetings that could make this happen. Meanwhile, I will ask my group to consider this.

—Rick Potter-Cogan, MBChC  
Comox

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