

Update on Guide for Improvement of Family Medicine Training (GIFT) Tools

The 2021 Guide for Improvement of Family Medicine Training (GIFT) on the medical use of cannabis is nearing completion. A one-pager titled Guide to Navigating Cannabis Use in Primary Care, outlining recommendations for curriculum improvements, will be released shortly.

The selected 2022 GIFT topic is obesity management. Working group members have conducted an environmental scan and developed a survey that is just being finalized and will be sent to residents and program directors shortly to help narrow the focus of this project. Please look out for this survey as your feedback is invaluable. Analysis of the data will be undertaken over the summer and a draft one-pager with recommendations will be presented to program directors in November requesting their feedback.

Be sure to check out our [library of GIFT tools](#).

Newly Released Resources

- [Professional Learning Plan \(PLP\)](#): The College of Family Physicians of Canada™ (CFPC) PLP is a new Mainpro+® certified tool designed to help support physicians in achieving their personalized continuing professional development (CPD) learning goals.
- First Five Years in Family Practice Essential Guides have been created to provide tips on various topics such as [First Five Years Essentials: A brief guide to locuming in family medicine](#) and [Contract Negotiation Basics – Locum Edition](#). Financial Management – Basics, the next guide in this series to be released in June/July.

New Pilot

The Residents Relations working group is excited to launch Residents' Corner (RC) – a new blog-based news and publication sharing channel dedicated to issues pertaining to family medicine. Residents' Corner is lead and written by family medicine residents, for family medicine residents. Submissions are meant to fuel conversations around family medicine training and practice, as well as other key issues relevant to Canadian health care.

Types of submissions accepted:

- Commentaries and opinion pieces (< 750 words)
- Manuscripts (< 1,500 words, with maximum of 10 references)
- Live, learn, and pass on (storytelling series, < 2,000 words)
- Artistic expression (e.g., poems, visual art, audio-based recordings) that reflects current issues in Canadian family medicine training and practice

Additional details to be provided in the coming months.

Hybrid Family Medicine Forum (FMF) 2022

This year's Family Medicine Forum ([FME](#)) will be held in-person in Toronto from November 9th to 12th and virtually from November 16th to 19th. The intention is for this hybrid conference to be seen as two individual experiences and not mirror images. FMF 2022 will include interactive breakout sessions for participants, social events, and various networking opportunities.

Outcomes of Training Project Report/Recommendations Update

In January 2022 the CFPC released a report— [Preparing our Future Family Physicians: An educational prescription for strengthening health care in changing times](#). The report offers a critical reflection on the current training of family physicians in dynamically changing times and outlines a set of educational recommendations for both core and enhanced skills family medicine training. This includes the recommendation that all family physicians should have comprehensive training, now defined by the [Residency Training Profile](#), and require three years of training. We want to increase the intentions and preparation for comprehensive family practice and raise the educational bar in key areas including home and long-term care, mental health and addictions, Indigenous health, cultural safety, trauma-informed care, and anti-racist practice.

Extra time is not an educational strategy. It is what we do with the extra time that will make the difference (i.e., not more of the same thing) and that is what we are looking at in the next phase of work. Residency training is not deficient. Programs are well run and residents are well trained. Time is an educational resource for programs to deliver on the expectations defined in the Residency Training Profile, and for graduates to feel not only competent (as externally assessed), but fully prepared (internal readiness by way of confidence, capability, and adaptability) to take on comprehensive practice anywhere in Canada.

Feedback, concerns, and preferences have been provided by residents throughout this project and that strong voice will continue. A CFPC Education Reform Taskforce, with representation from the Section of Residents, is being constituted to advise on the education design, evaluation, and change strategies. A learner advisor group, or forum, is also being conceptualized and will be in service to the Education Reform Taskforce to ensure ongoing and broader communication, collaboration, and engagement with various medical student and resident groups. Changes to our educational standards and extended length of training will not take effect until 2027, giving a careful approach to multi-partner and stakeholder engagement, innovation, and learning.

Find out more and follow our project by visiting www.cfpc.ca/futurefp | www.cfpc.ca/relevemf

Practice Management Prep

Don't forget to check out [Practice Management Prep](#) (PM Prep). This is an online tool for residents that includes self-reflection exercises, learning plans, and a repository of practice management resources intended to support family physicians in their transition from residency to independent practice. The business side of practice, or practice management, is an area in which new family doctors have requested additional learning opportunities.

Questions or Comments?

Send any questions or comments to your SoR Council representatives, whose names are on the SoR [web page](#). Have a quick question? [Email us](#) directly.

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