

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for providing excellent care to your older patients and for your support of the Health Care of the Elderly (HCOE) Community of Practice at the CFPC. The HCOE Committee met May 22 at the CFPC for our annual face-to-face meeting, and would like to share information about the activities in which it has been involved during the last six months.

CFPC/CGS Award of Distinction in Health Care of the Elderly

This award is supported by the CFPC in collaboration with the Canadian Geriatric Society. Congratulations to Dr Mark Yaffe, 2014 winner, for his significant contribution to elderly patient care, research, and education. The committee is currently reviewing nominations for the 2015 award.

Clinical Snippets

Thanks for your feedback and comments. We have a full slate of Snippets to send out to you. We will also send out continuing professional development (CPD) opportunities in care of older patients on a regular basis and these can be found on our [website](#).

Advocacy

We met with Patients Canada face to face in May and will be working on some ways to improve the experience of the older person in the family medicine office. Start thinking of how you are already making your office senior friendly!

We are also planning to work with the CFPC to advocate for family physicians caring for seniors. We need your input to guide our advocacy efforts. Please [click here to tell us](#) your Top 5 advocacy concerns. We will try to prioritize our work plan based on the responses.

Core competencies and certificates of added competence

As you may be aware, the CFPC is currently accepting applications for certificates of added competence (CACs) for physicians with previous COE training or who have established leadership roles. The process can be found at www.cfpc.ca/cac. We encourage those who meet the criteria and wish to pursue a CAC in HCOE to submit their applications.

In addition, members of the HCOE Committee are participating in the development of the Geriatric Core Competencies for Family Medicine Curriculum and Enhanced Skills: Care of the Elderly (ie, “the third year”). Some of you have provided helpful comments already.

Academic projects of interest

Over the next few months, we will be seeking your input about innovative and successful models of care for frail seniors. We are developing a repository of examples and will be using a number of methods to share them with family physicians. Please consider what you have done and what you have seen in your region that might give others a head start to improve care in their practice. We will send out further information when we are at the stage in our process to start reviewing your ideas.

CGS

The latest edition of the CGS journal is now available! Please [click here](#) to read it online. Additionally, for beneficial geriatric content on Twitter, please follow [@CanGeriSoc](#). A number of family physicians are contributors to this educational effort.

Thanks again for all your support. Feel free to contact us at hcoe@cfpc.ca if you have thoughts or comments.

Your committee

The HCOE Program Committee consists of representatives from the CFPC's five regions and also has resident representation. If you have any ideas or questions related to your region, please let us know!

Dr Chris Frank, Committee Chair

Dr Paul Kivi, British Columbia/Alberta representative

Dr Pravinsagar Mehta, Saskatchewan/Manitoba representative

Dr Sidney Feldman, Ontario representative

Dr Marcel Arcand, Quebec representative

Dr Jody Woolfrey, Atlantic Canada representative (NB/PEI/NS/NL)

Dr Fred Mather, Long-Term Care representative

Dr Robert Lam, Observer from the Canadian Geriatrics Society

Dr Danika Kung Kean, FM Resident representative

Pop culture reference of the month—this short YouTube video reminds us of who our older patients are:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xWJq1SvgWQ0>