



December 2023

Dear Specialist colleagues:

When you join the Consultant Specialists of BC (cSBC) your dues go to creating the Implicit Rereferral (more on that below), Virtual Care fee codes, media campaigns to promote patient access to Specialist care and negotiating on behalf of Specialists through Physician Master Agreement (PMA) talks and discussions outside the PMA.

We nominate a member to the Statutory Negotiating Committee and appoint a Specialist to the Negotiations Coordinating Group which advises it. There is a new PMA negotiation for 2025 looming even as the current one is still being implemented.

Part of our work is to lobby for balanced remuneration for Specialists and FDs, and is always a challenge.

Meetings with government started in fall 2022 after an open letter to Ministry of Health from concerned Specialists garnered more than 300 signatures and are still going on with cSBC at the forefront; progress is slow but we're encouraged there will be some good outcomes, possibly by the time you receive this letter.

[Implicit Rereferrals](#) (IRR) came from a cSBC proposal to replace the outdated referral system and is a huge win for Specialists, patients and Family Doctors alike.

Waitlists for Specialists, Family Doctors (FDs) and diagnostic services related to accessing cancer care are front and centre with cSBC, the only representative body for Specialists in BC.

Specialist care is more than “clearing surgeries” and we support all types of Specialists including medical, diagnostic and surgical.

The decision on the \$15 million Specialist fund through the PMA came through just before this letter was due to be submitted in October 2023 so the impact is still being calculated. The disparity process is fraught but cSBC has maintained a watchdog approach, offering Specialty groups assistance wherever possible.

Much of our work is on-going so your support is more important than ever.

Make the Specialist Voice Heard by Joining Consultant Specialists of BC for 2024

Go to <https://doctorsofbc.ca/account/sections> Scroll down to **Consultant Specialists of BC**, click on the + sign, choose box for regular \$450; first-year practice/disabled/parental leave \$225; OR student/resident/retired free. Click **JOIN SELECTED SECTIONS AND SOCIETIES** to pay. Thank you!

~ Dr Dana Wong, President

**Want to hear more about what Consultant Specialists of BC does for you?
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