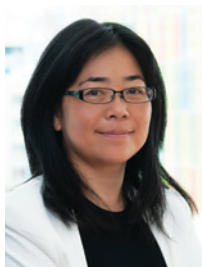




THE QMA, ALWAYS AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE ISSUES



Although summer is knocking at the door, we won't be stopping our work at the QMA! Your association is permanently committed to a number of hot topics that affect the

health care system in Québec. It also initiates discussions on new issues for which it proposes alternatives. From overdiagnosis to medical professionalism, the QMA has been able to show its leadership and innovation in its position statements. In April at its annual convention this year, the association focused its interest on the development of a new mode of unifying, realistic and efficient clinical governance.

More than 125 participants were able to attend presentations and round tables, as well as share their opinions on the structural elements that should be considered for implementing this new governance model. By the end of the event, the QMA had helped them establish a more complete picture of the topic and provided them with a privileged forum for discussion.

Support for the Health and Welfare Commissioner

April heralded a very busy spring, and the issues quickly multiplied for the QMA. Indeed,

I was able to take part in setting up a new coalition that demanded keeping the Health and Welfare Commissioner. The QMA resolved to defend the only body able to take an objective, broader view of the entire health care system in Québec.

Extra fees

Your association has also been very active in other major political issues. The new vice-president of the QMA, Dr. Hugo Viens, took part in the FADOQ press conference as part of its lawsuit filed with the Federal Court of Canada. The purpose was to force the federal Minister of Health to enforce the Canada Health Act in order to prevent patients from being billed extra fees for services already insured by the health care system. In the end, the results were successful, because the federal Minister announced that the Act would be enforced and the Québec Minister of Health and Social Services changed his position on extra fees.

Bill 92

In the same vein, the QMA pursued its work as a representative by taking part in the parliamentary committee on Bill 92 that aims to extend the powers of the RAMQ. Accompanied by Jacques Béland, the regional director for Facturation.net, I submitted a brief presenting the QMA's position. You can read more about it in *QMA Info*.

The next few months will be just as interesting, especially with things like the second QMA-CMA Symposium for Physician Executives, an event that will enable physician leaders and executives to address numerous issues from a different perspective.

Regardless of the time of year, the QMA is always active. We are and will remain at the forefront of the issues, you can count on us!

I wish everyone a great summer,

Dr. Yun Jen, MD FRCPC
President

THREE NEW FACES AMONG THE DIRECTORS

The association's annual general meeting was held at the convention, where members endorsed the choice of the three new directors for the Board and marked the departure of Dr. Pierre Harvey, who has been at the QMA for eight years. Dr. Frantz-Daniel Lafortune (Physician resident), Dr. Guylène Thériault (family physician) and Dr. Michel Welt (obstetrician-gynecologist) joined the QMA's Board of Directors. I am confident that they will be able to help the QMA write a new and exciting chapter!

Optimal coordination of care for arthritic patients

Do you treat patients suffering from arthritis? Do you want to adopt an interdisciplinary pathway to ensure the optimal coordination of care for your patients? On October 29, 2016, the Québec Medical Association and the Arthritis Society invite you to attend the symposium on arthritis intended for all health professionals (specialists and general practitioners, pharmacists, nurses, occupational therapists, nutritionists, etc.). The symposium will take place during the 3rd Quebec Forum on Arthritis intended for the general public, to be held at the Palais des

congrès de Montréal.

Check the preliminary program and register at: www.rencontrearthritequebec.ca.

Health professionals: \$175

Students or residents in medicine: \$30

A request for accreditation for continuing professional development credits will be submitted to the recognized accrediting organizations and professional orders concerned.

2nd QMA-CMA Symposium for Physician Executives. To manage, adapt!

Although the department heads have just been appointed in the institutions, they are still reeling from the size and distance of the teams.

Using a case study based on the daily challenges faced by physician executives, workshops facilitated by a management expert will help to shed some light on the transformational challenges that physician executives have to deal with, the management processes to choose, and the skills required to meet these challenges.

Put the *Symposium for Physician Executives* on your agenda now. You will receive the detailed program and registration information in the next few weeks. **Make it a date on November 17 in Montréal!**

A request for accreditation for continuing professional development (CPD) credits will be submitted to a recognized accrediting organization.

Physician Executives Group: watch for the next consultation

The executive committee of the *Physician Executives Group* is continuing its activities and has already set out the objectives of the group. The work also made it possible to determine the needs of physician executives in the current context, as well as possible actions to meet these needs.

Over the next few weeks, the QMA will be carrying out a consultation with physician executives in order to:

- Determine the profile of physician executives;
- Obtain a good understanding of their needs;
- Guide the QMA's actions and services offered
- Take stock of the situation.

It is always possible to join the group to follow upcoming activities more closely.

For more information, please contact us at: medecinsgestionnaires@amq.ca.

QMA IN ACTION

Prestige Award

Dr. Réjean Thomas

Alain Cloutier Award

Dr. Gilles Chiniara

Physician Manager

Leadership Award – Dr. Guy Legros

Emerging Professional Award

Dr. Adinson Brown

Robert Gourdeau Award

Olivier Vaillancourt



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The QMA is on the frontline to keep the Health and Welfare Commissioner

On April 26, 2016, QMA president Dr. Yun Jen attended the National Assembly in Québec City to represent the association in the new coalition formed to maintain the position of the Health and Welfare Commissioner (CSBE).

This coalition brought together non-partisan representatives who all believed that abolishing the CSBE was a significant step back for public services in Québec. The members of the coalition alone represent more than half a million citizens from all walks of life.

Extra fees: an evolving issue

On May 3, 2016, the QMA chose to accompany the FADOQ by supporting its lawsuit filed with the Federal Court of Canada that was aimed at forcing the federal government to enforce the *Canada Health Act* in order to end overbilling for health care in Québec. The QMA has always been opposed to billing patients directly for services that are already insured by a universal health care system.

The QMA also used the opportunity to reiterate its position on the government's responsibility to include all the real costs of a medically required service in the ministerial envelope and to ensure that it does not grow exponentially. It

The QMA feels that the office of the CSBE is the only body able to take an objective, broader view of the entire health care system in Québec. Furthermore, at a time when the system is undergoing radical transformations stemming from Bill 10 and Bill 20, the commissioner's points of view are critical for providing a concrete, independent evaluation of the real effect of these changes and enabling the medical profession to better respond to the needs of the population.

also invited the Québec government to tackle the issues of overdiagnosis, overtreatment and overmedicalization in order to free up much more than the presumed \$50 million in extra fees.

Since the press conference, the federal Minister of Health has committed to enforcing the *Canada Health Act* and Minister Barrette has proposed to include extra fees in the next negotiations between physicians and the government. Now it just remains to be seen whether this will have a positive, rapid impact on patients. An issue the QMA will be following closely over the next few weeks.

The QMA at the parliamentary committee for Bill 92

On May 12, 2016, QMA president Dr. Yun Jen took part in the parliamentary committee on Bill 92 that aims to extend the powers of the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec. While the QMA welcomes the bill and agrees with its principles, which are intended to reduce fraud in the health care system, it questions some of its targets and the impact of certain provisions.

The QMA specified that most non-compliant billing was a result of unintentional errors made by physicians. It went on to point out that fraud represented only a very small part of medical billing and that attention should also be paid to other components of the

billing process.

The QMA believes that it would be better for the government to take a closer look at the consequences of the complexity of billing, extra fees, overdiagnosis and a lack of direction regarding the use of health insurance cards by uninsured people. These are aspects that could have a direct impact on better control over the cost of health care in Québec.

To learn more about the QMA's position regarding Bill 92, read the brief submitted to the parliamentary committee under Position Statements on the QMA in Action tab.

Choosing Wisely Canada: toolkits to change your practice



Two years after its launch, the *Choosing Wisely Canada* campaign, which aims to promote conversations between physicians and patients in order to choose the most appropriate tests and treatment to ensure quality care, is proposing a new toolkit for physicians.

- Lose the Tube: A toolkit for appropriate use of urinary catheters in hospitals;
- Bye-Bye PPI: A toolkit for deprescribing proton pump inhibitors in EMR-enabled primary care settings;
- Why Give Two When One Will Do: A toolkit for reducing unnecessary red blood cell transfusions in hospitals;
- Drop the Pre-Op: A toolkit for reducing unnecessary visits and investigations in pre-operative;
- Less Sedatives for Your Older Relatives: A toolkit for reducing inappropriate use of benzodiazepines and sedative-hypnotics among older adults in hospitals.

Take advantage of these toolkits and adapt your initiatives based on your local circumstances and the ingenuity of your team. Let us know about your success!

www.choosingwiselycanada.org/in-action.

Meet Joule

Joule™, is the Canadian Medical Association's newest company investing in and delivering innovative products and technologies and the catalyst for physician-led innovation.

Joule provides you with trusted resources to make it easier for you to be at your best. Joule includes flagship products such as the *CMAJ* and Physician Leadership Institute (PLI) courses. It also includes clinical tools such as *DynaMed Plus®*, *RxTx* Mobile app and *ClinicalKey*.

Supported and shaped by the Innovation Council the program awards annual grants totaling \$150,000 and provides ongoing support in areas such as business case development, marketing and raising venture capital.

Download the new Joule app to submit your grant application by June 23.

Develop your medical leadership!

With the PMI Leadership program, the QMA is confident it can support physicians in developing their ability to influence, engage and lead.

This fall, take these courses:

In Abitibi, September 20 and 21, 2016

Orchestrer le changement et l'innovation
(leading change and innovation, in French only)

In Québec City, from September 14 to 16, 2016

Connaissance de soi et leadership efficace
(self-awareness and effective leadership,



in French only)

Montréal, from October 3 to 5, 2016

Dépenses, sens et bon sens
(dollars and sense, in French only)

You can take one or more courses, in any order you wish. For more information and to register, visit amq.ca/formation or contact the QMA at 1 800 363-3932 or admin@amq.ca.

The 5th international Preventing Overdiagnosis conference in Québec City in 2017



From August 17 to 19, 2017, the Palais des congrès in Québec City will welcome the 5th edition of the *international Preventing Overdiagnosis conference*.

After sending a noteworthy delegation to the first conference in 2013 in Hanover, New Hampshire, and attending the conferences in both Oxford (2014) and Athens (2015),

the QMA worked very hard to attract this major event to our own province. This visit also follows up on the association's considerable work done to raise awareness in Québec over the last few years. In 2016, the QMA will also be attending the conference in Barcelona, Spain.

Elsewhere in the system!

What Summer school: learn how to analyse networks of social relationships

When July 4 to 8, 2016

Where École de santé publique at the Université de Montréal

Info espum.umontreal.ca/

What Horizon Health Network's national conference on patient and family centred care

When November 7 and 8, 2016

Where Moncton, Nouveau-Brunswick

Info horizonnb.ca/SAPFExperience

New seminar, circle the date!

Successful partnership management (offered in French only)  Séminaire

When October 21, 2016

Where CHUM, Montréal

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