

MEMO

DATE: October 29, 2020

TO: All Physicians

FROM: Dr. Susan Shaw, Chief Medical Officer

RE: Physician Skills Enhancement and Deployment

I am pleased to share with you two exciting initiatives created as part of our response to the pandemic: the Physician Skills Enhancement program and the Physician Deployment process. You are encouraged to attend the WebEx event ***Fall Surge Planning: Opportunities for Physician Skills Enhancement and Deployment*** on November 3 from 5:30-6:30 PM to learn more. This event will include an overview of both initiatives while providing an opportunity for you to ask questions and learn more. An email invitation to register for the event has been emailed along with links to the information sheets, including this [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\) document](#).

Physician Skills Enhancement (PSE)

The Physician Skills Enhancement (PSE) program has now launched across the SHA. The PSE program provides an opportunity for physicians to complete a skills enhancement experience to enhance their skills with a goal of becoming more proficient in an area of need in the event of a pandemic surge. Program features include:

- Online modules (40 hours) and on-site clinical experience (30 hours)
- Choose your area of skills enhancement - ICU, ER, Hospital and Field Hospital (if required)
- **Accredited for Mainpro+ and MOC CME credits**
- Physicians are eligible to invoice for up to 70 hours under the Pandemic MOU for skills enhancement

Physicians can sign up for the PSE program by emailing pandemicdoc@saskhealthauthority.ca or by completing the [Skills Inventory](#).

For more information on the PSE program, please visit the webpage [here](#).

Deployment

Health care systems have a responsibility to plan for emergencies (such as a pandemic) to optimize their response and ensure provision of the best health care possible in a time of crisis. The SHA is implementing a range of initiatives to support physicians and the facilities in which they are working as detailed in this guideline: *Physician deployment in a pandemic: A guide for the safe and responsive distribution of physician resources* which outlines 21 guiding principles.

Safety | Accountability | Respect | Collaboration | Compassion

With a commitment to a philosophy of Patient and Family Centred Care

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The physician deployment process was developed by a group of Saskatchewan physicians and is underpinned by several principles addressing conditions for deployment, teaming and support, health and wellbeing and building competence and confidence. Key components of the process include:

- Physicians who already have the required skills can volunteer for deployment; those who would like to enhance their skills to deploy can sign up for the PSE program.
- Physicians who have signed the MOU and who meet the required skills and training requirements will be considered for deployment first.
- Physicians will receive as much notice as possible for a deployment request.
- All efforts will be made to ensure deployments will be no longer than 14 consecutive days and will be as close to the physician's home community as possible.
- Wellness supports are available to all physicians during and after deployment.

For more information about the Deployment process, please visit the webpage [here](#).

The SHA is committed to continuous quality improvement and working with our physician colleagues to ensure we have a proactive and appropriate response to all health care needs, including this pandemic. If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please email pandemicdoc@saskhealthauthority.ca, attend our WebEx Event or share your thoughts directly with your local SHA physician leaders.