

President's Letter

July 23, 2018



**Tracey Bridger
MD, FRCP(C)
President**

Call for Expressions of Interest: Transitioning Hospital-Based Services to Physician Practices

Dear Colleagues:

The 2013-2017 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) allows for the establishment of a process to review which surgical, diagnostic or therapeutic procedures currently provided in hospital facilities might be appropriate to transition to being provided in physicians' practices in the community.

Under the MOA, a Committee has been established consisting of representation from both the NLMA and the Department of Health and Community Services (HCS). This Committee will consider proposals from physicians and make recommendations to the Minister regarding transitioning surgical, diagnostic or therapeutic procedures that presently cannot be billed by fee-for-service physicians if performed outside of the hospital setting.

At this time, the Committee is inviting expressions of interests (EOIs) from physicians practising in the province who are interested in performing hospital-based services/procedures in their community practices. The purpose of this call for EOIs is to provide the Committee with a broad overview of the concepts and the type of services or procedures that could be potentially transitioned to the community. At this stage, the proposals should be brief and capture the essential concepts or changes the physician is proposing.

The EOIs will be reviewed by the Committee and must demonstrate that the transitioning of the service or procedure identified will improve patient access, reduce wait times and/or result in cost savings for the public health care system. Other evaluation criteria to be employed by the Committee during the review process include:

- Alignment with Government and Department HCS strategic goals
- Addresses a defined need or opportunity (improved access to care, better efficiency, etc.)
- Acknowledgment of quality assurance, including accreditation where appropriate
- Avoids unnecessary duplication/redundancy of resources (people and equipment)
- Integrated with public system and equitable to patients
- Compliant with Federal and Provincial legislation

Based on a review of the EOIs, the Committee may invite more detailed proposals from physicians whose proposals best meet the assessment criteria. After this stage, the committee will make recommendations to the Minister on proposals that should be approved.

It is important to note that, as this is a new process, the Committee will be revisiting its own administrative procedures and criteria as proposals are received and assessed. We need to remain flexible to respond to opportunities and circumstances as they arise.

The EOI submission form is an excel spreadsheet, [downloadable here](#). Please save this document to your desktop, fill it out and save it before sending to the NLMA.

Completed submission forms should be sent to nlma@nlma.nl.ca no later than September 15th, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

For more information, please contact Jean Cook at 709-722-3344 or jcook@nlma.nl.ca

Sincerely,

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President

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