PAN-CANADIAN ONCOLOGY DRUG REVIEW
1 University Avenue • Suite 300 • Toronto, ON • M5J 2P1

June 6, 2011

Hello,

I am writing to provide an update on the pan-Canadian Oncology Drug Review (pCODR) process. The pCODR secretariat has been working with government, patient advocacy groups and pharmaceutical manufacturer stakeholders to create the policies and processes necessary to begin accepting drug submissions. While we had intended for pCODR to be ready to accept submissions by now, we can advise that additional time is necessary to conclude the final phase of the administrative sign off processes in each of the participating jurisdictions. While these processes are varied and complex, they reflect the due diligence that all provinces are undertaking. We expect this will happen as quickly as possible, however the timeframe may be extended and we want you to be aware of this possibility.

Please be assured that the provinces remain committed to pCODR. Through considerable collaboration efforts, the pCODR Steering Committee has accomplished the following with the help of all its partners:

- the pCODR Secretariat staff, including the Executive Director, have all been recruited and are in place;
- Canada's leading cancer experts have been recruited to be involved in the review process, making up the pCODR Expert Review Committee, Clinical and Economic Guidance Panels;
- the Provincial Advisory Group has been created and is functional, to help ensure pCODR recommendations are useable;
- the pCODR website and secure web portal, which are integral to pan-Canadian collaboration, have been developed and are fully functional; and
- submission guidelines, tools and templates relating to the Review Process have been finalized after extensive stakeholder consultations and are available online.

We are committed to transparency and it is important that we keep you informed of the delay in transition of the interim Joint Oncology Drug Review (iJODR) to pCODR. To address the transition delay, and to ensure ministries of health and cancer agencies continue to receive timely advice regarding new cancer drugs, pCODR has developed a short-term transition plan that will ensure there is no disruption in the review of submissions. During the first month that pCODR begins to accept submissions, submitters (either pharmaceutical manufacturers or clinician-based tumour groups) will have the choice to submit through either the iJODR or the pCODR review processes. Once the review stream has been selected, the submitter must meet the submission requirements for the selected review process and the review will need to continue through that stream. After the first month, all new submissions will only be accepted by pCODR.

I appreciate the contributions and commitment of patient advocacy groups, pharmaceutical manufacturers and governments from across Canada. I will be back to you soon with a further update. In the meantime and as always, should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at mona.sabharwal@pcodr.ca. I welcome your feedback.

Sincerely,

Mona Sabharwal
Executive Director

cc: pCODR Steering Committee