

April 12, 2011

Hello,

As the elements come together for the transition from the interim Joint Oncology Drug Review (iJODR) to the pan-Canadian Oncology Drug Review (pCODR), this email provides an update on the pCODR structure, the portal and transition timing.

Structure

Establishing the membership of the the pCODR Expert Review Committee (pERC) and the Clinical and Economic Guidance panels is in its final stages. Dr. Anthony Fields has accepted the position of Chair, pCODR Expert Review Committee. He is currently Vice President, Alberta Health Services - Cancer Care and Professor, Department of Oncology, University of Alberta, and has served as Chair of Alberta's cancer drug expert committee, the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee of Alberta Health Services - Cancer Care (formerly of the Alberta Cancer Board). He was Chair of the Advisory Committee and a member of the Steering Committee of the interim Joint Oncology Drug Review (iJODR), and a member of the Steering Committee of the pan-Canadian Oncology Drug Review program. We are very pleased to have someone of Dr. Fields' calibre join the pCODR team.

Portal

The pCODR portal is now live and online at www.pcodr.ca. We encourage patient advocacy groups and pharmaceutical companies to register with pCODR through the portal, so that they can participate in the drug review process once the transition from iJODR to pCODR is complete.

Transition from iJODR to pCODR

We had initially determined that pCODR would be able to begin accepting new submissions later this month. However, ensuring that the review process reflects input from a wide range of stakeholders is a complex task. While we intend to have the process up and running as soon as possible, some additional time is required to determine the impact of stakeholder input. We are committed to transparency and will keep you informed as to our progress.

I will be back to you soon with a further update. In the meantime should you have any questions or concerns, I welcome your feedback.

Sincerely,



Mona Sabharwal
Executive Director