



OCTOBER 1

Renewal period begins:
Licence to Practise,
2019

NOVEMBER

Election of three new
members of College
Council: two from
St. John's/Mount Pearl,
one from remainder
of province)

DECEMBER 8

Council meeting
in St. John's at the
offices of Chartered
Professional
Accountants of
Newfoundland
and Labrador

Highlights: 2018 Q3 Council Meeting

The College's third-quarter Council meeting was held on September 8 at JAG hotel in St. John's. It was preceded, on the evening of Friday the 7th, by a special information session that focussed on using physician risk factors as a tool for further assessment of physician competency. Featured speakers at this event included representatives from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, which is in the process of revamping its physician competency programs.

Highlights of the September 8 Council meeting included:

1. Review and approval of the College's proposed 2019 strategic directions and priorities. The 2019 College budget and Operational Plan will be developed from these documents and they will be discussed for approval at the December 8 Council meeting.
2. Approval of a resolution not to increase any College fee for 2019.
3. Final review and approval of the Duty to Report Standard of Practice. Communication about its content is forthcoming; it can now be found on the College's website.
4. Review of member feedback on the Critical Results draft Standard of Practice.
5. Discussion of a draft Standard of Practice related to "Informed Consent." Council approved a delay in circulating this Standard for member review pending the development of contextual and educational information that will explain the Standard's intent and scope. These materials will be reviewed at the December 2018 Council meeting.

As at every quarterly meeting, the Council was updated on all work the College does to ensure that physicians in this province practise competently and safely throughout their medical careers. This endeavour and focus remain the work priorities for the College.

LICENCE RENEWAL 2019: IMPROVEMENTS COMING

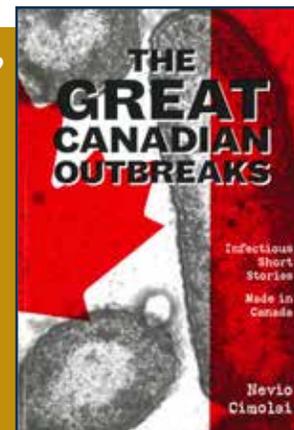
Over the summer, the College has been working with the integrated Management Information System (iMIS) consulting firm to improve members' online renewal process in the next renewal cycle. When you renew for 2019, you may notice:

1. The process takes less time, thanks to simpler, shorter questions. In Sections 7 and 8 particularly, some questions have been combined, thus reducing their number.
2. There is more consistency in question format and the required information is more relevant.
3. There is now a place to review and modify your specialties and sub-specialties.

Also, to improve the security of the data collected, this year the link sent to members will not take you directly to your own licence data. Instead, you will be required to enter a username and password.

FALL READING?

An accomplished B.C. physician presents fascinating, plausible—but fictitious—disease outbreaks, complete with scientific and epidemiological analysis.



IN OUR NEWS

CPSNL HIRES DIRECTOR OF QUALITY

The College of Physicians and Surgeons NL is pleased to welcome Mr. Brian Bennett to the newly created position of Director of Quality. Brian has worked in the province's health care sector for over ten years. He spent the last four years in a senior leadership role, where he developed, implemented, and evaluated programs that enabled the delivery of services by physicians in the province. Brian holds a BA from MUN and an LLB from Dalhousie. He will oversee the College's Quality Assurance and Quality Initiatives programs.

A REMINDER: PRESCRIPTION MONITORING

CPSNL members are reminded that the province's new *Prescription Monitoring Act* came into effect on July 1, 2018. The legislation is available online and helpful brochures (for the both public and drug prescribers/dispensers) can be downloaded from www.health.gov.nl.ca/health/prescription/prescription_monitoring_program.html.

ON OUR RADAR

... AND NOT JUST OURS

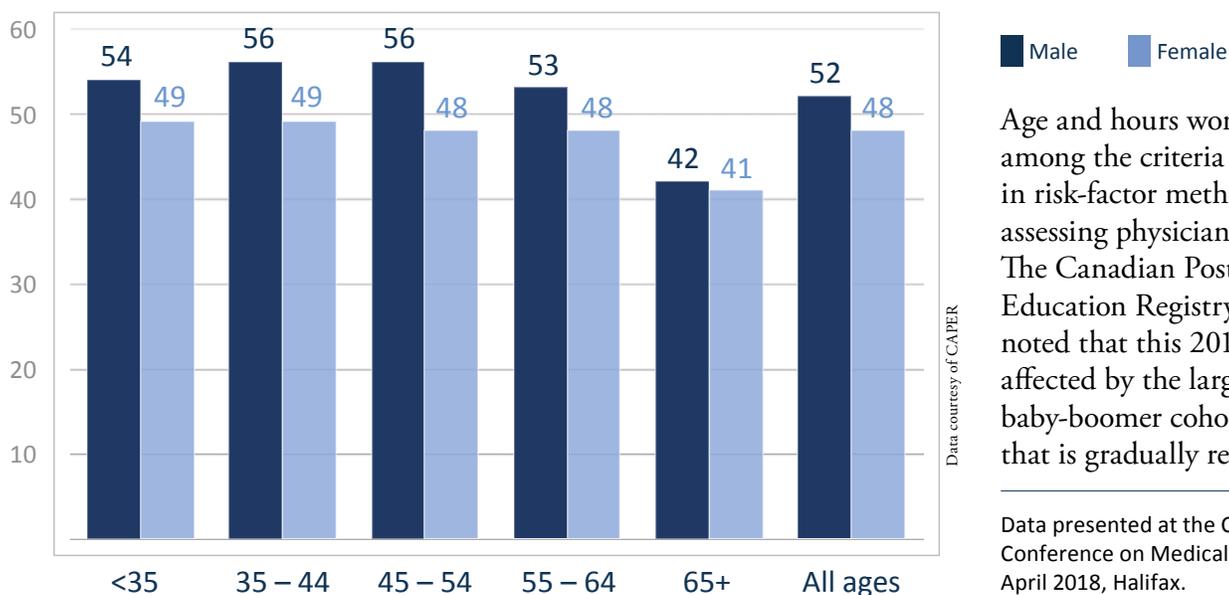
Many of the regulatory colleges across Canada are currently devoting serious time and resources to two key questions: how best to **resolve continuity of care issues** within our complex health-care delivery systems, and how to improve the efficiency and thoroughness of **physician competence assessment** and monitoring. The spring issue of the Ontario College's member publication (*Dialogue*, pictured) has excellent discussions of both issues and their potential solutions. CPSNL will be learning from the work of CPSO and other larger colleges as we update our own approaches to these areas of responsibility, which help us ensure that this province's physicians practise medicine ethically, competently, safely, and in good health.

For a closer look at these topics, download *Dialogue* from www.cpso.on.ca/ (under "Publications").



2017: MD AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED, BY GENDER AND AGE

(National data, excludes on-call hours)



Age and hours worked are among the criteria considered in risk-factor methods of assessing physician competence. The Canadian Post-MD Education Registry (CAPER) noted that this 2017 data is affected by the large, male baby-boomer cohort of MDs that is gradually retiring.

Data presented at the Canadian Conference on Medical Education, April 2018, Halifax.

Mandate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland and Labrador

“The college is authorized to regulate the practice of medicine and the medical profession in the public interest.”

As established by the *Medical Act*, 2011