

July 21, 2010

Overview of Drug Policy Advisory Committee and Summary of Nomination Process

The Drug Policy Advisory Committee (DPAC) Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for individuals employed in Canadian hospitals and regional health authorities (or similar bodies such as Local Health Integration Networks or regions) to fill two vacancies on DPAC. The deadline for nominations is **August 11, 2010**. Following is a brief description of DPAC, and the terms of reference that provide further information about this committee are available on the CADTH website.

DPAC is a new committee being established to provide strategic advice on drug policy issues and drug topics to the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH). The Committee will provide guidance that considers the outputs and impact of CADTH work in meeting the needs of federal, provincial and territorial governments and those working in the Canadian health care system.

CADTH is an independent, not-for-profit agency funded by Canadian federal, provincial, and territorial governments to provide credible, impartial advice and evidence-based information about the effectiveness of drugs and other health technologies to Canadian health care decision makers. Unlike regulators who determine which technologies can be used in Canada, CADTH supports decision makers in their determination of which technologies should be used to achieve the best outcomes both for patient health and the health care system. With respect to drugs, CADTH provides formulary listing recommendations to participating publicly funded drug plans and optimal therapy recommendations for use by the Canadian healthcare system as well as other information.

DPAC

DPAC will consist of 17 voting members: 15 will be representatives from Canadian jurisdictions, appointed by the jurisdictions, and two will be non-jurisdictional representatives from Canadian hospitals and regional health authorities (or similar bodies), selected through a nomination process. It will also include an observer from Quebec, representing L'Institut national d'excellence en santé et en services sociaux (INESSS) and ex-officio member, a senior CADTH staff person.

DPAC will meet monthly by teleconference meetings of one to two hours. The DPAC Secretariat will endeavour to schedule calls to achieve optimal participation by all DPAC members. Each year, at least one of the monthly meetings may be a full-day, in-person meeting, likely in Ottawa.

DPAC Nomination Process

Non-jurisdictional candidates for DPAC membership may be nominated by anyone in Canada. To help identify potential non-jurisdictional candidate for DPAC, a list of characteristics is included at the back of the DPAC terms of reference in Appendix A.

The DPAC Nominating Committee will select nominees to fill the two vacancies. The qualifications of each candidate will be assessed against stated criteria that are consistent with qualifications and requirements included in the DPAC Terms of Reference and those candidates meeting the criteria will be placed on a slate. The slate of candidates will be submitted to the CADTH Board of Directors to make the appointments. As DPAC is a newly formed committee, the two appointments will be staggered to provide continuity; thus, one appointment will be for a three-year period and one for a two-year period. Thereafter, appointments will be for two years.

All nominees will be apprised of the CADTH Board of Directors decisions regarding the appointment of members to DPAC in October 2010.

Required Nomination Documents

Each nominee must provide:

1. A signed letter agreeing to allow his/her name to stand for nomination (may be scanned and sent electronically).
2. A curriculum vitae (sent electronically)
3. A short summary of qualifications

Nominators should provide a letter supporting the nomination.

Nomination documents should be submitted by August 11, 2010 to:

by email: Elaine MacPhail at elainem@cadth.ca

by fax: Elaine MacPhail at (613)226-5392

by mail: Elaine MacPhail

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health
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Where to Obtain Further Information

Documents related to the DPAC nomination process and further information about CADTH can be obtained on the CADTH website at: www.cadth.ca or by contacting CADTH at (613) 226-2553.