

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION LETTER

Title of study: Priorities in Funding Models of Family Medicine Physicians in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada: A Qualitative Evaluation of Family Medicine Physicians' Experiences

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Co-investigator(s)

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Co-investigators, University of Alberta: Dr. Lauren Eastman, Dr. Martin Tieu, Dr. Joanne Baergen, Dr. Nathan Turner, Dr. Samantha Horvey

Invitation to Participate: You are invited to participate in this research study because you are a Family Medicine Physician or Family Medicine resident, and we would like information on how you perceive the potential for an increased presence of third-party private insurance incorporated into the provincial physician funding model.

Purpose of the Study: From this research we wish to learn how you perceive the potential for an increased presence of third party private insurance incorporated into the provincial physician funding model.

Participation: If you wish to participate in this study, please complete the attached survey. The survey should take you approximately 10 minutes to complete. Once you have completed the survey, please click the submit button.

Risks: We do not think that there are any risks to taking part in this study. Although it is not a risk, taking part in this study involves the inconvenience of giving 10 minutes of your time in order to complete the survey

Benefits: Your participation in the study may benefit you by being able to share thoughts on potential changes to your compensation model. Broadly, your participation will contribute to a better understanding of Family Medicine physician and resident perspectives and values for their practice in Alberta

Voluntary Participation: You are under no obligation to participate and if you choose to participate, you may refuse to answer questions that you do not want to answer. You can stop the survey at any time. Should you choose to withdraw midway through the electronic survey, simply close the link and no responses will be included. As all survey responses are anonymous, you may be unable to have your data withdrawn once analysis has begun, as it may be impossible to remove your individual responses from the anonymised pool of data.

Compensation (or Incentives):

Incentive for this study will be provided in the form of a prompt to enter to win one of 2 electronic gift cards for \$200, via TruCentive.com with completion of the survey. A separate window will open for you to input your contact information with the gift card distributor Trucentive. You may choose to receive this electronic gift card by email, SMS text message or both methods. Based on your preference, we will provide your email and/or SMS text number to TruCentive.com. Some gift cards may use 3rd party for activation and may require you to provide personal information. All information input for receipt of the gift card will not be linked to your responses to the survey to ensure anonymity. If you are selected to receive the gift card, you will be prompted to answer a skill testing question to confirm receipt. You will have approximately a 1 in 287 chance of winning a \$200 gift card.

Confidentiality and Anonymity: The information that you will share will remain strictly confidential. In order to minimize the risk of security breaches and to help ensure your confidentiality we recommend that you use standard safety measures such as closing your browser and locking your screen or device when you are no longer using them / when you have completed the study.

Because your information is stored outside of Canada it may be subject to the privacy legislation of those territories which may include access by governmental agents. Results will be published in pooled (aggregate) format. Anonymity is guaranteed since you are not being asked to provide your name or any personal information. Every effort will be made to keep your personal information confidential. However, we cannot guarantee total privacy. The survey will have no association with your identity. If information from this study is published or presented at scientific meetings, your personal information about you will not be used. The research information that is shared with people outside of Columbia University will not include your name or any other direct identifier unless disclosure of the information is required by law or you have authorized the disclosure.

The following people and/or agencies will be able to look at, copy, use and share your research information:

- The investigator, Columbia University and University of Alberta study staff and other professionals who may be evaluating the study;
- Authorities from Columbia University including the Institutional Review Board ('IRB'). An IRB is a committee organized to protect the rights and welfare of people involved in research;

Data Storage: No potentially identifying information will be stored. Data will be saved on a password-protected, encrypted Columbia University OneDrive for a minimum of 5 years post study completion.

Information about the Study Results: Research findings will be shared in aggregate with the Alberta College of Family Physicians and as part of a research manuscript intended for publication.

Contact Information: If you have any questions about the research now or later, please contact. If you have questions about the study, please contact:

Jennifer Fox – jafox5959@outlook.com
Dr. Stephanie Grilo – sag2179@cumc.columbia.edu

Dr. Lauren Eastman – leastman@ualberta.ca

If you have any questions regarding your rights as a research participant, you may contact the University of Alberta Research Ethics Office at ethics@ualberta.ca or

+1(780)492-2615 and quote Ethics ID Pro00165265. This office is independent of the researchers.

Please keep this form for your records by saving or printing this form.

Completion and submission of the survey means your consent to participate.