

About this Newsletter

This monthly newsletter is coordinated and published by ISIS. Our main goal is to keep International Medical Graduates informed about new programs, events, and initiatives related to the medical field and healthcare system in Nova Scotia.

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ISIS NEWS

2012 OSCE Preparation Program at ISIS

ISIS is going to run the next Objective Structured Clinical Examination(OSCE) Preparation Program from January to April to support the IMGs who are going to take part in the LMCC2 or CAPP in 2012. The program will be delivered on a weekly basis and contains twelve evening sessions and three mock OSCEs.

The OSCE Preparation Program provides enhanced opportunities for clinical experience

for IMGs. It facilitated the learning of professional communication, the understanding of healthcare culture and medical skills by providing practice interacting with trained simulated patients in a Canadian context.

If you are interested in registering for this program please contact Sepideh Behroozan at sbehroozan@isisns.ca.

IMGs' Study Groups and Resource Library

ISIS Study Groups will continue until January 12th on Thursday evenings. The OSCE Preparation Program will replace the LMCCQ2/ CAPP Study Group from January the 12th until April the 27th, 2012 . We will resume the LMCCQ2/ CAPP Study Group from May on a weekly basis.

ISIS resource library, with more than 15 books, is available for IMGs who are ISIS clients. We will post the updated list of the books on our website in near future.

New Enhanced Examination for Certification in Family Medicine and the Medical Council of Canada Qualifying Examination (MCCQE) Part II

Significant changes are being planned for the Certification Examination in Family Medicine starting in 2013. Beginning that spring, all candidates seeking certification will need to pass an enhanced examination featuring an expanded clinical skills component in addition to a computer-based written component. The enhancements are the result of several years of work and planning between the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) and the Medical Council of Canada (MCC), and allow both organizations to share resources and reduce the testing burden on family medicine candidates.

The enhanced examination will be recognized as an alternative pathway to meeting the MCCQE Part II requirements for the Licentiate of the Medical Council of Canada (LMCC). When meeting all other requirements of both organizations, candidates who challenge and pass the enhanced examination in 2013 will be granted both certification in family medicine from the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CCFP) and the LMCC.

Candidates who are eligible to seek certification in family medicine starting in spring 2013 will be required to sit the new enhanced examination and will be able to forgo taking the MCCQE Part II. The MCC will still continue to offer the MCCQE Part II in the spring and fall for other specialties.



Registration for the enhanced certification examination will commence in fall 2012 through the CFPC website.

Visit the MCC and CFPC websites for updates on the enhanced examination, examination fees, eligibility requirements and application deadlines leading up to the launch of the new examination.

Notice Regarding the Linking of MCC and PCRC Accounts

As part of an exercise to more fully integrate MCC and PCRC, the MCC has identified candidates who have both an MCC examination account (MCC-Online) and a PCRC repository account (PCRC-Online) that have not previously been connected, and is creating a link between the two accounts.

Linking of a candidate's accounts allows results documents from any future MCC examinations to be automatically transferred into the PCRC database and thus be made available for viewing and sharing through the candidate's PCRC-Online account. For further information please visit: www.pcrc.org

Holiday Safety

The holiday season is a busy time, and it is important to remember to be safe during this festive season. This time of year brings joy and good cheer, but it is accompanied by a few potential hazards. It is important to be aware, and the following information can help you to be safety conscious during the holiday season:

Alcohol

- Alcohol in the form of drinks, perfume, cologne, antifreeze, and other household items can be very poisonous if swallowed by a child. Keep these products out of children's reach
- Alcohol poisoning is very serious, and can lead to severe illness or even death
- Know your limit, and stay within it

Batteries

- With so many batteries around the house at this time of year, it is important to remember that the alkaline content of these items can be poisonous to children and pets if swallowed or chewed



- Children or adults swallowing any type of battery should be referred to a healthcare facility, as there could be concern if the battery leaks or gets lodged within the body

Decorations: Fake Snow

- Comes in an aerosol can
- Contains chemicals that can be harmful if inhaled
- Dried snow is not considered poisonous

For more information please visit:

<http://www.iwkpoisoncentre.ca/education.html>

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hl-vs/securit/season-saison/holiday-fetes/index-eng.php>

Free Access for New Canadians to National Parks and National Historic Sites

The Institute for Canadian Citizenship is a national non-profit organization that engages new Canadian citizens through innovative programs, campaigns and partnerships. Their initiatives are designed to ensure that new citizens are welcomed and included as equals and are aimed at creating meaningful connections among all Canadians, fostering a culture of active, engaged citizens and celebrating our shared identity as Canadians. Through the Cultural

Access Pass, new Canadian citizens and up to four of their children under 18 years of age will receive free admission to more than 100 of Park Canada's treasured places. The pass will be valid for one year after the new citizens have been sworn in. Several Parks Canada locations will also serve as pick-up locations for the passes.

Read more at: <http://www.pc.gc.ca/>

Upcoming Courses and Conferences

Association of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia (AIPSNS) Annual General Gathering

Date: December 15, 2011, 5:00-7:00 pm

Location: 6960 Mumford Road, Suite 2120, ISIS,
Room 12

38th Annual February Refresher: Therapeutics

Date: February 23-25, 2012

Location: Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel

Talk the Tox 2012

An Education Day for Physicians, Nurses, Pharmacists and Paramedics

Place: Marriott Halifax Harbourfront Hotel Halifax

Date: February 22, 2012.

[http://www.iwkpoisoncentre.ca/talk-the-tox-2011-
registration.html](http://www.iwkpoisoncentre.ca/talk-the-tox-2011-registration.html)



We are looking for recommendations for new content and revisions to the current content. Please email your feedback to sbehroozan@isisns.ca or call Sepideh Behroozan, IMG Bridging Program Coordinator , at (902)406-8650.