

National Physician Survey: Informing policy on medicine and health care

The National Physician Survey (NPS) is more than a survey of physicians, residents and medical students in Canada; it is a trusted and influential source of information that supports advocacy on issues that affect physicians and the delivery of quality health care to patients.

Consider the Evidence:

- The College of Family Physicians included findings from the NPS in key health policy documents such as the *Primary Care Report Card* (2008) and *Patient-Centered Primary Care in Canada: Bring it on Home* (2009).
- The CMA used findings from the NPS to support its “*More Doctors, More Care*” campaign and its “*Doctors in the House*” days on Parliament Hill.
- The Royal College cited NPS data in its brief to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health: *Health Human Resources: An Essential Part of a Sustainable, Accessible and Responsive Healthcare System* (2009).
- One in five (21%) requests for NPS data came from organizations that help shape health care policy in Canada, including governments at all levels, research networks and hospitals.
- Requests for NPS data focus on the issues that affect you and your patients, including practice models, remuneration, workload and obstacles to providing care.

Data from the National Physician Survey is a powerful resource that medical associations, governments and advocacy groups can use to inform health policies and legislation. By completing your survey questionnaire, you can help ensure important decisions are *informed* decisions.

A collaborative effort of the Canadian Medical Association, The College of Family Physicians of Canada and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, the NPS marks its third edition in 2010, building on successful surveys in 2004 and 2007.

For data from the previous editions and for more information on the 2010 edition, visit www.nationalphysiciansurvey.ca.

New for 2010 – Enter to win \$1,000!

Those who receive an invitation to complete the questionnaire (on paper or online) can enter a draw for \$1,000!