

## MEMO

**DATE:** March 30, 2020

**TO:** All Non-Resident Physician Members of the SHA Practitioner Staff

**FROM:** Dr. Susan Shaw, Chief Medical Officer, SHA

**COPY:** Scott Livingstone, Chief Executive Officer, SHA

Dr John Froh, Physician Leader, Pandemic Emergency Operations Committee

Dr Phillip Fourie, Deputy Chief Medical Officer

Rob Gentes, Executive Director, Practitioner Staff Affairs

Dr Karen Shaw, Registrar, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan

Dr Werner Oberholzer, Deputy Registrar, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan

**RE:** Temporary Physician Privileging during SHA COVID response

The SHA continues in our preparations and response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes preparing for the likelihood that that our patients will require Saskatchewan physicians to work in new ways.

A process to grant temporary expansion of appointments and privileges to physician members of the SHA practitioner staff is in development. These emergency privileges will only be exercised in accordance with the SHA's pandemic plan and on the direction of the Chief Medical Officer, Deputy Chief Medical Officer or Area Chief of Staff and will be done in consultation with the appropriate Pandemic Physician Lead and Area Department Lead. Such privileges, once granted, would only be able to be exercised while practicing within the jurisdiction of the Saskatchewan Health Authority. Any restriction on current privileges within the SHA will continue to be enforced unless specifically modified. Following cessation of pandemic operations, I will rescind the emergency temporary privileges granted during pandemic operations

This process is sufficiently nimble to allow the SHA and physicians to respond to the evolving and unpredictable impact of a COVID-19 outbreak. Our colleagues at the CPSS have confirmed their support of this process through extensive discussions. This support includes confirmation from the CPSS that physicians do not need to apply for a change to their usual scope of practice for clinical work performed within the SHA's jurisdiction during a pandemic. (Any physician who needs to change their usual scope of practice outside of the SHA jurisdiction including their community practice must make an application to CPSS for a change in their scope of practice).

The development of this process has involved our partners at the Ministry of Health, CMPA, SMA, CPSS and College of Medicine. Please note that this information and process does **not** apply to resident members of the SHA practitioner staff. Consultation with CPSS and the College of Medicine is ongoing regarding this important part of our team.

### **Safety | Accountability | Respect | Collaboration | Compassion**

With a commitment to a philosophy of Patient and Family Centred Care

**NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY:** This information is for the recipient(s) listed and is considered confidential by law.

If you are not the intended recipient, any use, disclosure, copying or communication of the contents is strictly prohibited.

We all have our own expertise and areas of practice, but we are all physicians at the core. I know all will be ready and willing to provide care to those who need it when called upon to do so. Please be cognisant of your ethical responsibility to practice within your capabilities and ask for assistance when required.

I thank you for your ongoing commitment to the care of our patients. I really am proud to be a part of all that you do in support of our shared vision: Healthy People, Healthy Saskatchewan.