

Physician Support Programs: M A C

Member Advisory Committee

The SMA maintains a Member Advisory Committee (MAC) consisting of physicians appointed by the board for the following purpose:

1. To provide counsel to members of the Association who require assistance in responding to inquiries from, or investigation by, peer review agencies or processes.
2. To assist members under investigation in preparing the best possible responses to inquiries.
3. To make appropriate recommendations when peer investigative procedures are deemed to be unfair or biased.
4. To advise members under peer review when legal counsel is desirable.
5. To provide advice to members who seek assistance in the resolution of conflicts with hospitals, colleagues, or patients.

The Committee's function goes beyond being advisory and includes representation, support, advocacy and defense of members.

The activities of the Member Advisory Committee are designed to supplement

and not replace those of CMPA. Efforts are made to maintain a working relationship with CMPA legal counsel and cases are discussed with CMPA only on the agreement of the physician involved.

On the assumption that everyone is entitled to a defense and the right of representation, the purpose of the Member Advisory Committee is to assist members of the Association who request help in responding to investigations or inquiries such as:

- patient complaints to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan
- formal interviews or disciplinary proceedings by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan
- billing investigations by the Director of Professional Review or the Joint Medical Professional Review Committee
- proceedings initiated by the Regional Health Authority

The Committee keeps all details of its involvement strictly confidential. Contact with other physicians, associates, legal counsel or any other person is made only with the express consent of the physician.

The onus for requesting assistance rests with the physician. The Member Advisory Committee will not impose itself upon members who choose not to take advantage of its services.

The Committee can be contacted through:

Brenda Senger, Director of Physician Support Programs, SMA
at 244-2196 or 1-800-667-3781.

Should you wish to speak with the Chair of the Committee,
Ms Senger will arrange contact.

