

FACT SHEET

OFFICE PRACTICE NURSE COMPENSATION PILOT PROJECT

The 2004 Agreement between the Ontario Medical Association and the Ministry of Health and Long- Term Care created a new grant for physicians in various primary care models to assist with the costs associated with employing Registered Nurses (RN) for their office practice. The pilot project funding is available until October 31, 2007 to all signatory physicians in eligible primary care models, including Family Health Organizations.

Funding:

Each physician in the group is eligible for \$5,250, to a maximum grant of \$21,000 per full time equivalent (FTE) Registered Nurse position (based on an average of 4 physicians to 1 RN FTE position). Additional employment costs associated with employing RNs above the grant amount provided are the responsibility of the physician group.

In groups where more than 4 physicians are applying, the number of physicians will be multiplied by \$5,250 to determine the total yearly grant amount available and the number of FTE RN positions to which it could be applied.

For example, 11 physicians would receive \$57,750 (11x \$5,250) to fund 3 FTE RN positions (\$21,000 maximum grant per full-time RN position.) Where fewer than 4 physicians are applying for funding, the maximum amount of \$21,000 will be prorated (e.g. 3 physicians would receive \$15,750 or 3 x \$5,250 to assist with funding 1 FTE RN position).

Reporting:

An evaluation of the impact of the practice nurse on the primary care setting will be conducted through interviews with grant participants. Successful applicants will be required to participate in this evaluation process.

Applications:

Applicants may apply for grant funding throughout the pilot project phase until October 31, 2007.

As there is a yearly limit on the amount of available funds, grants will be processed in the order in which they are received. Groups applying after the yearly amount has been exceeded will be added to an expression of interest list and contacted when funding for the next fiscal period begins.

Groups interested in applying for the Office Practice Nurse Compensation Pilot Project funding should request an application package, from the Interdisciplinary Practitioner Program at (613) 650-5444.