

**David Kay**

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**Subject:** RPAP Hotsheet - July 2002 Issue



July 2002 Issue

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## 1. RPAP Recruitment Support

Did you know that the Alberta Rural Physician Action Plan has an extensive series of supports for recruiting physicians to rural Alberta? The list includes:

- Practice Opportunities web page
- Eligible Physicians Listing (*to be upgraded*)
- Recruitment Fairs
- Matching Signing Bonus for Practice (*for new Alberta trainees only*)
- Orientation Guide (*new*)
- Recruitment brochures: *Tips to Making Recruiting Easier*, *The importance of Following Up*, *Welcoming the Physician to our Community*, and *Hiring & Immigration Processes for IMGs* (*new & prepared w/ HRDC, CIC, AHW & CPSA. To be posted on the RPAP web site w/ forms*)
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For more information check the RPAP website at [www.rpap.ab.ca](http://www.rpap.ab.ca) or contact David Kay, RPAP Program Manager, 1-866-423-9911, Fax: (780) 423-9917, E-mail: [Alberta-RPAP@rpap.ab.ca](mailto:Alberta-RPAP@rpap.ab.ca)

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## 2. New RPAP Shadowing Program

The new RPAP shadowing program was developed after talking to participants of the recent medical students' tours. First and second year medical students from both Faculties stated that they do not get enough exposure to rural medicine and that they only get to do a short stint with city family physicians, and most other clinical contact for these students was with specialists.

These students felt they would have insufficient rural experience by the time they have to make a career choice selecting a residency program. So the RPAP shadowing program was created to give first and second year medical students an opportunity to follow rural physicians for a weekend on-call and provide a further opportunity to show them what rural medicine has to offer. This exposure should generate future interest in rural medicine.

The shadowing program is in its infancy. Invitations to participate were mailed out this Spring to 376 rural physicians in Alberta resulting in 22 rural sites with 80 plus physicians willing to have a student shadow them for all or part of a weekend. Along with this, we have 30 medical students who would like to participate in the shadowing program. Some of the students have already started shadowing, and the response from the preceptors and the students has been very positive. Feedback from the preceptors shows they like teaching first and second year medical students because they are keen to learn all aspects of medicine. Some have commented that this program is long overdue.

For more information check the RPAP website at [www.rpap.ab.ca](http://www.rpap.ab.ca) or contact Bev Garbutt, RPAP Medical Students' Initiatives Coordinator at (403) 628-2797 or E-mail: [bgg@telusplanet.net](mailto:bgg@telusplanet.net).

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## 3. New FP-Anaesthesia Program Being Offered: Crisis Management in the Simulator

You are invited to experience high-fidelity simulation in a one-day course designed specifically for Family Practice Anaesthetists. Use of the Human Patient Simulator allows you to experience and manage rare and critical events in a controlled, unique and hands-on environment. Anaesthetics can be administered to a full-body adult mannequin complete with heart sounds, breath sounds, pulses and reactive pupils. Interact with the mannequin as it responds physiologically and in real-time to administered drugs, airway manipulations and numerous other interventions.

Working in any new environment can be stressful. The day starts with a thorough orientation. The scenarios you will encounter have specific educational objectives and mimic real-life situations. There will be time to repeat scenarios trying different management strategies. All workshop activities are completely confidential.

The course runs from 8:00-4:00. You will be sent a pre-course package with reference material and information. You will arrive in the morning and change into scrubs. Breakfast will be served while discussing course objectives and the day's events. The course will be tailored to your educational needs. The day is spent participating in scenarios allowing you the chance to play different roles throughout the day. A debriefing and discussion session will occur after each scenario. Lunch will also be provided. The day will end with a course evaluation, and a follow-up evaluation will be mailed 2-3 months later.

There are currently 2 locations in Canada offering this new program: **Canadian Simulation Centre for Human Performance and Crisis Management Training**, Department of Anaesthesia, Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre, Toronto, ON. Susan DeSousa (416) 480-6100 ext. 3377 or [simulation.centre@swchsc.on.ca](mailto:simulation.centre@swchsc.on.ca); and **Telehealth and Simulation Centre**, Capital Health, Edmonton, AB. Joseph Gebran (780) 491-5685 or [jgebran@cha.ab.ca](mailto:jgebran@cha.ab.ca).

Enrolment is limited to 6 participants per day with a minimum of 4. The course fee is \$600, which includes course material, breakfast and lunch.

Special thanks to the Alberta Rural Physician Action Plan (RPAP) and The Society of Rural Physicians of Canada (SRPC) for their generous support of the program.

For more information contact David Kay, RPAP Program Manager at 1-866-423-9911, Fax: (780) 423-9917 or E-mail: [Alberta-RPAP@rpap.ab.ca](mailto:Alberta-RPAP@rpap.ab.ca). Course brochures will be available through the SRPC ([www.srpc.ca](http://www.srpc.ca)) beginning in early August.

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## 4. New RPAP Photo Contest

Enter the RPAP Photo Contest and help RPAP gather pictures of *rural physicians and their families* to be used in its monthly newsletter, website, information updates, displays, brochures, and posters. RPAP produces a variety of communication materials throughout the year as it works to support the education, recruitment and retention of rural physicians.

RPAP will accept entries from *through August 2002*. Winners will be announced in September. Everyone entering a photo in the contest will receive a small RPAP gift acknowledging his or her entry. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in each of the three categories will be awarded special prizes in September. There is no limit on the number of entries accepted.

### Contest Categories

The contest is open to all Alberta rural physicians and their family members. Photos will be accepted in two different formats (Colour or B/W 35 mm Photos or Colour Digital 600 dpi Photos) and three different categories: Photos shot by Rural Physicians, Photos shot by Partners of Rural Physicians, and Photos shot by Partners of Rural Physicians.

Entrants should fill out the entry form, and *sign the Photo Release Form*. The Photo Release gives permission to RPAP to use the photos in its communications and publications. Every person shown in the picture, as well as the person who took the picture, needs to sign the Photo Release. All children under the age of 18 should have a parent or guardian sign their release.

**Entries should be sent to:** Alberta Rural Physician Action Plan, 1000 Manulife Place, 10180-101 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3S4

For more information or to obtain contest details, check the RPAP website at [www.rpap.ab.ca](http://www.rpap.ab.ca) or contact David Kay, RPAP Program Manager at 1-866-423-9911, Fax: (780) 423-9917 or E-mail: [Alberta-RPAP@rpap.ab.ca](mailto:Alberta-RPAP@rpap.ab.ca).

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## 5. Additional Skills Trainees Looking for Practice Opportunities

Every year upwards of 24 second-year family medicine residents enter RPAP-sponsored Additional Skills Training (AST) positions each July in GP-Anaesthesia, GP-Obstetrics, GP-Surgery and Emergency Medicine, to name but a few areas. The objective of the AST program is to give the trainees additional skills needed in a rural practice setting (e.g. anaesthesia, general surgery, obstetrics, emergency medicine, care of the elderly) and which are beyond the skills which the average rural physician equipped with a two year residency could reasonable be expected to have acquired.

Since July 1997, trainees are required to have a return-in-service agreement (RiSA) with a rural Regional Health Authority or the Rural Locum Program to access one of 18 Additional Skills Training (AST) positions. The remaining six AST positions (there are 24 in total split between both Faculties) do not require as RiSA. ***Please consider recruiting one of these trainees who come equipped with additional training for rural practice.***

For more information on the Additional Skills Training program or Return-in-Service Agreements (RiSAs), check the RPAP website at [www.rpap.ab.ca](http://www.rpap.ab.ca) or contact David Kay, RPAP Program Manager at 1-866-423-9911, Fax: (780) 423-9917 or E-mail: [Alberta-RPAP@rpap.ab.ca](mailto:Alberta-RPAP@rpap.ab.ca).

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## 6. RPAP Surfing Opportunities

Check our web site at [www.rpap.ab.ca](http://www.rpap.ab.ca) for details about Alberta's RPAP or [www.arfmn.ab.ca](http://www.arfmn.ab.ca) for details about the Alberta Rural Family Medicine Network (ARFMN).

**Further information and details on the RPAP and its initiatives may be obtained from:**

David Kay, RPAP Program Manager at 1000 Manulife Place, 10180 - 101 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3S4  
E-mail [Alberta-RPAP@rpap.ab.ca](mailto:Alberta-RPAP@rpap.ab.ca), Phone Toll Free 1-866-423-9911, Fax (780) 423-9917.

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**Tell us what you think about this Hotsheet or the RPAP in general.**