



DRAFT Terms of Reference for the Drug Strategies Ad Hoc Advisory Committee (DSAAC)

While the rate of increase may be slowing, Canada's total drug budget increased by \$1.5 billion between 2008 and 2009 to a total estimated cost of \$30 billion. Data regarding the total cost and rate of change for oncology specific drugs is not currently available. However, growth in the number of targeted, high cost anti-neoplastic agents coming to market, combined with a greater number of Canadians requiring cancer treatment, raises concern about the overall growth in oncology drug spending well into the future. CAPCA's Members represent approximately 50% of the cancer treatment system in Canada, and are each affected by the burden of a growing demand for care and treatment. They are therefore uniform in their interest in identifying options to ensure sustainability while improving the quality and access of care.

I. PURPOSE

The DSAAC is the principal advisory body to CAPCA's Board of Directors with respect to those issues that affect access to oncology drugs in Canada. Its purpose is to develop appropriately detailed analyses of emerging and existing opportunities to advance CAPCA's commitment to improving and harmonizing sustainable access to evidence-based drug treatment.

II. COMPOSITION AND OPERATIONS

- A. The committee shall be comprised of no less than two Directors.
- B. The Committee shall operate in a fashion that is consistent with the Guidelines for Committees of the Board, which are outlined in Tab B-1 of the Board Governance Manual.
- C. The Committee has access to CAPCA's senior management and documents as required to fulfill its responsibilities and is provided with the resources necessary to carry out its responsibilities.
- D. The Committee provides open avenues of communication among management employees, if any, and the Board.
- E. The Committee shall meet as regularly as required to achieve its purpose but shall meet a minimum of twice per year.
- F. The secretary to the Committee will be the Administrative Assistant to the Board or, in the absence of an Administrative Assistant, the Executive Director.

III. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Committee will provide advice to the Board regarding:

- A. **Pan-Canadian Oncology Drug Review (pCODR)**
 - i) CAPCA's public perspective on pCODR as a mechanism to reduce duplication of effort and improve clarity of drug funding decision making.

- ii) The development of a process to share information when there is a risk of misalignment between the pCODR funding recommendation and actual practice and/or when an equivocal pCODR recommendation introduces opportunities for variation in access between provinces.
- iii) A process to facilitate information exchange among cancer agency representatives on pCODR supportive review panels (e.g. Provincial Advisory Group).

B. Optimizing drug purchasing

- i) Review, monitor and make recommendations to the Board with respect to opportunities to harmonize drug purchasing processes across two or more provinces.

C. Information Access

- i) Review and make recommendations regarding internal and external requests for data to evaluate oncology drug costs across two or more provinces where the data is held by a CAPCA Member.

D. Measuring Progress

- i) Monitoring and reporting of progress against CAPCA's strategic priority regarding access to cancer drugs.

IV. ACCOUNTABILITY

A. The Committee Chair has the responsibility to report to the Board.

B. The Committee shall report its discussions to the Board by maintaining minutes of its meetings, distributing minutes at the next Board meeting, and providing an oral report where required at the next Board meeting.