

Meeting Minutes
Complementary and Integrative Medicine MIG
October 17, 2024

A videoconference meeting of the Complementary and Integrative Medicine MIG was held on October 17, 2024, beginning at 8:00 pm.

Present: Dr. Esther Konigsberg, Dr. Farah Tabassum, Dr. Elliot Jacobson, Dr. Fred Hui, Dr. Adrienne Junek, Dr. Richard Nahas

Regrets:

By Invitation:

OMA Staff: Alex Skublics

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda

1. Fall newsletter:
 - Review Dr. Esther Konigsberg's article
 - Review Dr. Richard Nahas' article
2. Dr. Angela Cheung's update on IM fellowship
3. Dr. Richard Nahas to share report from Santis health to the group
4. CIMA - letter of support for the application update
5. Dr. Esther Konigsberg to follow-up with Kimberly Moran after Dr. Richard Nahas completes the article.
6. Any other business.

Minutes for Approval, Meeting of September 11, 2024

1. Applying for certificate of added competence through Royal College Application update
-Dr. Esther Konigsberg: update from the Royal College - they have put application system on hiatus while they revamp the process - however, all materials and support letters received will still stand.

-We were able to get letters from pediatrics but family medicine won't provide a letter until after the hiatus as their leadership will be changing

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg had a phone call with the Internal Medicine subcommittee Chair who will take our request of support to the committee meeting in November.

-for now, the search for letters will be put on hiatus until the applications are reopened

-Dr. Richard Nahas suggested we update the MIG on our whole process - Dr. Esther Konigsberg agreed and will write a statement for the next newsletter

-Dr. Adrienne says that Angela Cheung is still working on the fellowship so we can still get that ready for once the application process reopens - Dr. Konigsberg will reach out to see if Angela Cheung wants to join on our next meeting to provide an update

1. CIMA - letter of support for the application update

-Since the royal college wants support from Canadian organizations for the application, Dr. Farah Tabassum suggests we still pursue a letter just to check the box even if it doesn't hold much weight

-Dr. Konigsberg says that Dr. Elliot Jacobson has gotten 4 signatures so he may frame the letter as being from the individuals of CIMA rather than CIMA as a whole but he will still attempt to acquire more signatures

2. Summer/Fall Newsletter

-Dr. Adrienne Junek has completed her article for the newsletter

-Dr. Richard Nahas is working on his article on AI and healthcare regulations - his goal is to complete it by October 15

3. Regulatory Fairness. Next steps Dr Nahas (on hiatus)

-Dr. Richard Nahas and Dr. Fred Hui share their experiences with regulation and investigations into their practices

-Dr. Richard Nahas believes that best way to protect freedom of practice in healthcare is to draft an amendment to the Regulating Health Professions act from the MPP - this could be a project for a grad student at a law school - it could be helpful to reach out to places in the United States that have gone a similar route

-Currently the next step would be to share the Santis health report with the group to narrow down how to move forward

-this also circles back to Dr. Nahas' article on AI and healthcare regulation

4. Revisit executive tasks from last meeting:

- Dr. Richard Nahas to write newsletter article on AI having a regulatory role in health care.

-Dr. Richard Nahas states his goal is to complete this by October 14

- Dr. Esther Konigsberg to follow-up with Kimberly Moran after Dr. Richard Nahas completes the article.

-awaiting the article

- Dr. Esther Konigsberg to write something for the newsletter regarding the application to the royal college

-on pause as the Royal college application process is on a hiatus

5. Any other business.

-the group continued to discuss regulatory issues in healthcare

New Business

1. Fall newsletter:

- Review Dr. Esther Konigsberg's article
- Review Dr. Richard Nahas' article

-The articles were well received by the group and the newsletter will be worked on soon

2. Dr. Angela Cheung's update on IM fellowship

-Dr. Angela Cheung was unable to join today's meeting

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg received an update from Dr. Cheung that she currently has an IM research fellow who just won an award at a national conference. Dr. Konigsberg will keep in touch and will invite her to a future meeting for discussion

3. Dr. Richard Nahas to share report from Santis health to the group

-Dr. Richard Nahas states his main takeaway from the report is that the best way to long lasting change would be an ICRC that is specific to integrative medicine

-Dr. Fred Hui suggests inviting Nancy Whitmore to a meeting to discuss this and concerns with health care regulation

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg says we should gather some data before bringing any issues forward

-Dr. Adrienne Junek mentions that we should gather personal experiences from members to support this idea, especially from other specialties to see if they have also encountered similar concerns

-Dr. Richard Nahas proposes to produce a survey that could be used to gather such experiences but questions if there is a framework by the OMA for intersection collaboration

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg will reach out to our OMA support person to see if it possible to arrange a meeting between members of different sections or MIGs

-Dr. Richard Nahas will begin working on the survey, he will attempt to dig up an old survey already created to use as a template

4. CIMA - letter of support for the application update

-Dr. Elliot Jacobson states he has acquired 4 signatures

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg suggests one more follow-up to see if we can get a few more signatures stating that a letter from a group, like CIMA, is beneficial to our application to the royal college

5. Dr. Esther Konigsberg to follow-up with Kimberly Moran after Dr. Richard Nahas completes the article.

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg questions if meeting with Kimberly Moran or Nancy Whitmore would be better for vetting the ideas in Richard's article

-Dr. Richard Nahas again suggests bringing the idea to law school researchers

-Dr. Fred Hui brings up potential issues with attempting to collaborating with regulators – agrees that approaching a law school would be the best option

-Dr. Farah Tabassum mentions that AI is still a ways off from being practical

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg and Dr. Richard Nahas agree but believe it is important to get the conversation started

6. Any other business.

-application was briefly discussed – Dr. Esther Konigsberg says the new application procedure at the Royal College is in the works but the College will hold onto what we have already submitted – we will seek out more letters once the new timeline has been released

Tasks for executives:

- Dr. Esther Konigsberg to reach out to OMA support person to inquire about arranging meetings with members of different sections
- Dr Konigsberg to invite Dr. Cheung to our next meeting.
- Dr. Richard Nahas to work on creating a survey for gathering experiences from group members related to regulatory issues
- Dr. Elliot Jacobson to reach out again to the former CIMA members in Regards to supporting recognition at the Royal College.
- Alex to work on the newsletter

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 11 at 8:00 pm

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm