

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Complementary and Integrative Medicine MIG**  
**September 11, 2024**

A videoconference meeting of the Complementary and Integrative Medicine MIG was held on September 11, 2024, beginning at 7:30 pm.

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

**Regrets:** Dr. Elliot Jacobson

**By Invitation:**

**OMA Staff:** Alex Skublics

**Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order.

**Approval of Agenda**

1. Applying for certificate of added competence through Royal College Application update
2. CIMA - letter of support for the application update
3. Summer/Fall Newsletter
4. Regulatory Fairness. Next steps Dr Nahas (on hiatus)
5. Revisit executive tasks from last meeting:
  - Dr. Richard Nahas to write newsletter article on AI having a regulatory role in health care.
  - Dr. Esther Konigsberg to follow-up with Kimberly Moran after Dr. Richard Nahas completes the article.
  - Dr. Esther Konigsberg to write something for the newsletter regarding the application to the royal college
  - Dr. Esther Konigsberg to arrange phone call with the Internal Medicine subcommittee to further pursue their letter of support
6. Any other business.

**Minutes for Approval, Meeting of April 17, 2024**

**1. Applying for certificate of added competence through Royal College Application update**

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg met with Angela Cheung and the letter from U of T has been written – Angela with also has funds to cover the remaining application – our group can put forth \$9,000 and she could provide the additional \$5,000

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg says the royal college may change their application process but what these changes are is unknown

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg also spoke with Nancy Fowler. Deputy chair of the CFPC– she is theoretically in full support but needs to speak with the board first before writing a letter

-internal medicine subcommittee unfortunately did not discuss writing a letter of support at their recent meeting – Dr. Esther Konigsberg will request a phone call to hopefully still work on something with them – we are also waiting on 5-6 other committees that are to have meetings

-otherwise, application is more or less completed – Dr. Richard Nahas agrees our only obstacle

moving forward are whatever changes may be in the application process

**2. CIMA - letter of support for the application update**

-Dr. Elliot was not at the meeting so we do not have an update.

**3. Dr. Farah Tabassum, new member at large**

-Dr. Farah Tabassum was unable to attend today's meeting but has joined as a member at large

**4. Spring/Summer Newsletter**

-Dr. Adrienne Junek has written an article on reverse T3 for thyroid

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg will write something about our application to the Royal College

-Dr. Richard Nahas will write an article about AI having a regulatory role in healthcare

-goal is to wrap up this newsletter before our June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting

**5. Follow up on meeting with Kimberly Moran, new CEO of OMA**

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg has spoken with Kimberly Moran, bringing her up to speed on our group and projects

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg asked about our group becoming a section if we get the area of focused competence, since a section receives more funds & support than a MIG – She also asked about how the OMA could better support doctors going through legal issues – Kimberly Moran said she

will get back to us on both of these questions

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg will follow up with her after Dr. Richard Nahas has written his article on AI and regulation as it relates to the concerns regarding legal issues

## **6. Regulatory Fairness. Next steps Dr Nahas**

-Dr. Richard Nahas brings up a different approach – looking into how AI can be used in healthcare – his suggestion is for AI to have a role in the regulation process – being used to create a more objective and consistent framework for discipline issues than the current decision making process.

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg questions who we would present this idea to – Dr. Richard Nahas says this change could only come from either the OMA or the ministry of health.

-ultimately, Dr. Fred Hui, Dr. Adrienne Junek, & Dr. Esther Konigsberg agree that the current system needs to be improved and this is a good way to plant the seeds for something better

-Dr. Richard Nahas will write a newsletter article about this topic and may also present it to the OMA, etc.

## **7. Any other business.**

-Dr. Richard Nahas shared his experience of a live conference for the academy of neurotherapy which was not well attended, resulting in them switching to online formats such as webinars. He suggests our group could have more events like the AGM or having speakers give a talk that would be easy to setup

-Dr. Adrienne Junek will be giving a talk on medication induced nutritional deficiencies in person in Toronto on June 1<sup>st</sup>

-Dr. Esther Konigsberg will be coming to the conference – it could be a good networking event we should see if others may want to meet up

## **New Business**

### **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

## 2. 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

## 3. 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

## 4. 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

5. 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

6. Any other business.

-the group continued to discuss regulatory issues in healthcare

**Tasks for executives:**

- Dr. Esther Konigsberg to complete article for newsletter updating the MIG on the application to the royal college
- Dr. Esther Konigsberg to reach out to Angela Cheung to attend the next meeting
- Dr. Richard Nahas to complete article on AI and healthcare regulation by October 16
- Dr. Richard Nahas to share report from Santis health to the group

**Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday, October 16 at 7:30 PM

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM