Mental health is an invisible thing, but it touches all of us at some point or another. It's part of life.

— Kevin Love, NBA basketball player

## FROM THE EDITOR

The potential for suicide and emotional distress among healthcare professionals undergoing regulatory investigation is an area of increasing concern that is underaddressed. Best practices in dealing with these growing concerns are important in medical regulation. In the general scholarly article "The ANCHOR Framework: Responding Compassionately to Suicidality in Health Practitioners Under Regulatory Investigation," (page 14) Manaan Kar Ray and colleagues propose a structured and compassionate response to health professionals experiencing emotional distress and suicidal ideation during the regulatory complaint process. ANCHOR is a six-part framework that focuses on strengthening psychological safety, promoting reflective growth, and a more humanely oriented regulatory system.

Public transparency and trust in healthcare professional regulation is critical for continued public confidence and support of medical regulation. Involving public participation in healthcare regulation is important in advancing public safety and quality improvement. In the commentary, "The Evolution of Community Participation in the Australian National Registration and Accreditation Scheme" (page 6) Patricia Hall and co-authors discuss the evolution of community participation in the operation of the Australian National Registration and Accreditation Scheme that oversees 16 health professions in Australia. Consumer participation in the regulatory process can provide important insight into raising public awareness and enhancing public engagement. It is very important that the public have trust in the healthcare regulatory process.

International Medical Graduates (IMG) play an important function in meeting the rural and remote physician workforce needs in Canada. An important concern involving internationally trained physician recruitment is their previous training, clinical experience, competency, and readiness to enter independent practice. This is especially important to the healthcare professional regulators who make licensure decisions. In the original research article, "Selection Criteria for International Medical Graduates in Rural Saskatchewan: A Survey-Based Investigation of Faculty Assessors and Rural Physician Leaders," (page 24) Valiyah Khurshid and co-authors present a cross-sectional study of stakeholders involved in the Saskatchewan International Practice Assessment (SIPPA). The SIPPA determines if international medical graduates are ready to enter independent practice. This study suggests that clarifying and aligning selection criteria for family medicine may enhance consistency, effectiveness, and fairness for IMGs. The research findings support an inclusive, community sensitive, and harmonized framework in IMG selection into practice readiness programs in Canada.

The growing demands on physician licensure can be a significant strain on the individual state medical boards workforce. In 2022, the Maryland Board of Physicians (MBP) and the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) began working on a collaborative project to enhance the accuracy and completeness of medical board licensing data. In the state medical board brief, "Maryland Board of Physicians and the Federation of State Medical Boards: Working Together to Improve Physician Licensure," (page 34) author Christine Farrelly discusses the numerous benefits of state medical boards working directly with the FSMB. A pilot project produced an efficient, accurate, and cost-effective electronic application process that decreased application processing time dramatically. There was a significant decrease in work level effort by the state and improved communication with applicants.

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