



Dr. Michael Poitras
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Update to Notice of Practice Closure

Dear Patients:

As many of you are aware, after 44 years in practice, I will be retiring on **September 30, 2025**. It is time to move on to the next phase of my life which I am looking forward to.

Finding a New Doctor

My hope was to be able to find a physician to take over my practice, but unfortunately, I have been unable to do so. It is an important time for you to be more proactive in your healthcare management. Your search for a new doctor AND your medical record are two important elements of this.

The following are some suggestions for ongoing care:

1. Ask family and friends if their doctor may be accepting new patients.
2. Speak to your local pharmacist who may be aware of new physicians in your area.
3. Go to <https://search.cpsa.ca/>
4. Go to <https://albertafindadoctor.ca/>
5. Contact "Health Link Alberta" at 1-800-408-5465.
6. Contact **RSRS** (see below). They often are aware of physicians accepting new patients.

If you have an urgent medical matter in the absence of a doctor, please proceed to the nearest emergency room.

Your Medical Record

Getting a copy of your medical record is the other element that is very important.

I am required by the College of Physicians and Surgeons to store all patient records from my practice for a period before they can be destroyed. I have selected **RSRS**, a physician-managed company, to safely and securely store all patient records from my practice. They will assist you in obtaining a certified and searchable copy for yourself and/or for your new physician (who will not receive it otherwise). While there is a provincial system that carries some of your information, it is not complete. It does not contain much of the information I've accumulated about your health in my practice.

I encourage you to obtain a certified copy of your personal medical history. It is a very important file for your continued care and should be accessible at all times, *especially in the absence of a new doctor*. I have included an infographic illustrating 10 reasons why getting your record is so valuable.

Please contact RSRS at your first opportunity for help with next steps and for obtaining your medical record. RSRS may be contacting you as well to confirm proper notification of this information.. Contact RSRS in one of the following ways:

www.recordsolutions.ca/DrMPoitras
Tel: 1-888-563-3732 Email: info@rsrs.com Fax: 1-877-398-5932

(Please note: You can make arrangements for your record immediately. However, unless you're already starting with a new doctor or you have an urgent requirement, the actual delivery of your requested medical record will take place only after my practice closes. My office will not be facilitating record transfers. This will only be handled by RSRS. There is a fee for the copy/transfer of your medical record in accordance with guidelines, but the fee is not prohibitive.)

It has been a privilege and honour to be your family physician for all these years. One of the principles of Family Medicine is establishing long-term relationships with patients, and from these relationships I have learned a great deal about the art of medicine. Over the years, your life stories and our conversations as to how best maintain your health and wellness has enhanced my skills as a family physician, and for this I thank you. I wish you all health and happiness for the future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Poitras

*RSRS is a physician-managed medical records storage facility. They are fully compliant with the guidelines set by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta and the relevant privacy regulations.