

**THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS
OF
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**

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Medical Identification Number for Canada (MINC)

The information on the attached MINC Communiqué describes a unique national lifetime identifier for physicians in Canada, the MINC number. Please read this information carefully.

For the reasons provided in the communiqué, all provincial and territorial medical licensing authorities have agreed that the MINC number is essential to assure accurate physician identification. In order for a MINC number to be issued for a licensed physician, the licensing authority, under whose jurisdiction the physician is licensed, must submit the following personal physician information to the central MINC computer.

Name (including previous names, if applicable);
Gender;
Date and country of birth; and
University granting medical degree, and year of graduation.

As your country of birth may not be recorded in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland and Labrador's (the "College") physician database, you are requested to indicate your country of birth in the space provided below.

There is no cost to individual physicians for the issuance or use of a MINC number.

By means of this correspondence the College seeks your agreement for the submission of your above-referenced information to the central MINC computer. If you have previously been issued a MINC number you will not be assigned another MINC number. This consent will allow the College to obtain your current MINC number.

Please note that if you have already been issued a MINC number, this authorization form will provide the College access to electronically obtain your current MINC number.

To indicate your agreement, you are requested to sign in the space provided below and to return this letter to the College by email, mail, or by fax. The fax number is (709) 726-4725 and the email address is cpsnl@cpsnl.ca.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,



Linda L. Inkpen, MD
Registrar

AUTHORIZATION

I hereby agree to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland and Labrador submitting to the central MINC computer the above-referenced information pertaining to me for the purpose of generating my MINC number.

Signature

Date

Country of Birth (Please Print) _____

Communiqué Regarding Medical Identification Number for Canada (MINC)

The increasingly complex, inter-related and computerized medical system in Canada has made the accurate and reliable identification of physicians (as well as medical students and physicians in postgraduate training) a significant problem. Many medical/health organizations have attempted to resolve this by issuing their own identifiers for their physicians; the result has been a proliferation of identifiers, none of which is linkable with other organizations.

In response to this problem, an identification system has been developed to provide physicians with a unique, lifetime, nationally-recognized standard identifier called the MINC number (Medical Identification Number for Canada). This identifier has been developed through the collaborative efforts of the Federation of Medical Licensing Authorities of Canada (of which the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland and Labrador (the "College") is a member) and the Medical Council of Canada.

For the individual physician, the major benefit will be ease and certainty of identification when applying for registration in a new jurisdiction, applying for privileges, or dealing with any organization which maintains a listing or database of physicians and which is a licensed user of the MINC number. There will be no cost to physicians to obtain a MINC number. Physicians will not have to complete an application form. With the physicians' authorization the College will submit the necessary registration information to the Medical Council of Canada.

MINC numbers will:

- ◆ be a unique lifetime identifier assigned to every individual who enters the Canadian medical educational or practice systems;
- ◆ be recognized by medical organizations nation-wide;
- ◆ be a simple serial number with no encoded information, e.g., CAMD-9999-9999 (i.e. it will not be possible to determine from the MINC number the physician's personal information provided to the Medical Council of Canada);
- ◆ be issued by a central hub computer, at the request of one of the Canadian medical licensing authorities;
- ◆ be held as confidential personal information by licensed users;
- ◆ not replace your Licensing Board registration number, your LMCC number, your provincial billing number (if any), nor any other identification number that you currently have;
- ◆ not convey any status, rights or privileges;
- ◆ not change the way in which any information concerning physicians is released.

For a MINC number to be generated, medical licensing authorities must provide the physicians' name (plus prior names, if applicable), their gender, their date and country of birth, the university which granted their medical degree and the year of graduation, to the MINC database. This personal information will be treated as confidential by the MINC database and will be disclosed only to other licensing authorities on a need to know basis.

When the new MINC number has been generated, the medical licensing authority will send physicians documentation of their MINC number.