

**MARKET SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM**

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**Report of the Market Supplement Review  
Committee**

**Perfusionist**

**December 21, 2014**

## OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Market Supplement Program is to ensure that Saskatchewan health care employers can attract and retain the employees required to provide appropriate health care services to the people of Saskatchewan.

This program is designed to address specific skill shortages by use of a temporary market supplement to attract and/or retain qualified employees. The program is designed to ensure that temporary market supplements respond to valid labour market criteria to address recruitment/retention pressures.

## OVERVIEW

The Market Supplement Review Committee (MSRC) reviewed updated documentation submitted in the annual review process regarding the market supplement for the Perfusionist classification. Perfusionists received a market supplement as part of the SAHO/HSAS bargaining process in the fall of 2002 and again a new supplement was implemented December 21, 2010.

There are two health regions that employ Perfusionists. Perfusionists are members of the Health Sciences Association of Saskatchewan (HSAS).

### *Role of a Perfusionist:*

*Perfusionists work under the direction of the Cardiovascular Surgeon, and typically set up, operate and maintain the heart lung machine and related equipment. Perfusionists are essential members of the operating team. Perfusionists also participate in research projects as initiated by the Cardiovascular Department.*

### *Qualifications:*

*Perfusionists must be certified by the Canadian Society of Cardiovascular Perfusionists. There are two clinical perfusion training programs in Canada – the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) in Burnaby, British Columbia, and the Michener Institute in Toronto, Ontario. Candidates to the program must have a two year medical diploma, plus an additional two years of clinical experience.*

Information regarding budgeted positions and vacancies is provided in the following table:

**Table 1 – Perfusionists (including Senior level) – Budgeted and Vacant Positions (December 2014)**

| Health Regions    | Number of Budgeted Positions<br>(As of December, 2014) |           | Number of Vacant Budgeted Positions<br>(As of December , 2014) |           | % Vacancy |           |
|-------------------|--|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                   | Full Time  | Part Time | Full Time  | Part Time | Full Time | Part Time |
| Regina Qu'Appelle | 4  | 0         | 0  | 0         | 0         | 0         |
| Saskatoon         | 5  | 0         | 0  | 0         | 0         | 0         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>      | <b>9</b>   | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  |

## ANALYSIS

The MSRC discussed the Labour Market Criteria as guided by the Market Supplement Program framework.

**SERVICE DELIVERY IMPACTS:** *(Employers were asked to provide information that addresses current service delivery impacts resulting from staff shortages, potential staff short term service delivery impacts, potential long term service delivery impacts and options for alternative service delivery models)*

Employers reported no service delivery issues.

Both health regions rely on this classification to perform key functions as members of the operating room team.

**VACANCY RATE ANALYSIS:** *(Employers were requested to provide information about the frequency and timing of vacancy occurrences {i.e., seasonal vacancies; do the vacancies always follow an event; etc.} and to identify trends that may affect recruitment/retention efforts).*

Currently there are no vacancies for this classification.

**Table 2 – Perfusionists – Budgeted and Vacant Position Comparison (2003 – 2014)**

| Perfusionists      | Number of Budgeted Positions<br>(December 2014) |           | Number of Vacant Budgeted Positions<br>(December 2014) |           | % Vacancy |           |
|--------------------|---|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                    | Full Time                                       | Part Time | Full Time  | Part Time | Full Time | Part Time |
| <b>2003 Totals</b> | 8   | 0         | 0  | 0         | 0%        | 0%        |
| <b>2004 Totals</b> | 8   | 0         | 0  | 0         | 0%        | 0%        |
| <b>2005 Totals</b> | 8   | 0         | 0  | 0         | 0%        | 0%        |
| <b>2006 Totals</b> | 8   | 0         | 0  | 0         | 0%        | 0%        |
| <b>2007 Totals</b> | 8   | 0         | 0  | 0         | 0%        | 0%        |
| <b>2008 Totals</b> | 8   | 0         | 0  | 0         | 0%        | 0%        |
| <b>2009 Totals</b> | 8   | 1         | 0  | 1         | 0%        | 100%      |
| <b>2010 Totals</b> | 9   | 0         | 1  | 0         | 11.1%     | 0%        |
| <b>2011 Totals</b> | 9   | 0         | 0  | 0         | 0%        | 0%        |
| <b>2012 Totals</b> | 9   | 0         | 0  | 0         | 0%        | 0%        |
| <b>2013 Totals</b> | 8   | 0         | 1  | 0         | 12.5%     | 0%        |
| <b>2014 Totals</b> | 9   | 0         | 0  | 0         | 0         | 0         |

**TURNOVER RATES:** *(Employers were asked to provide local analysis of reasons for leaving and trends that may be emerging. They were also asked to provide annual turnover loss of employees to other competitor employers; ratio to the existing staff complement {budgeted positions} in the given occupation.).*

Of the regions that report and track turnover, the following data is reported:

- Last 12 months – 2 (other employment; retirement)
- Previous 12 months – 1 (change of occupation)

One employee who terminated above is still working casual for the health region.

**RECRUITMENT ISSUE ANALYSIS:** *(Employers were asked to provide information such as length of recruitment times, training investments, licensing issues, supply and demand issues, etc., as well as information that would identify trends that may affect recruitment and/or retention efforts).*

There is a minimal supply of Perfusionists across North America. Historically, both Saskatchewan health regions that employ this classification have made extensive efforts to recruit and retain these professionals, and one region indicated it had initiated international recruiting efforts in the past.

Recently, recruiting efforts have not been necessary for this classification.

**SALARY MARKET CONDITIONS:** *(Employers were asked to identify situations where their salary levels are lower than other employers that they would expect to recruit employees from or other employers that recruit their employees. This may be local, provincial, regional, national or international depending on the occupation group and traditional recruitment relationships. Cost of living considerations may or may not be appropriate to factor into market salary comparisons).*

The MSRC reports the following market conditions for Perfusionists:

- Saskatchewan health regions – minimum \$37.737/hour, maximum \$46.018/hour, 5 steps. Effective April 1, 2012.
- Alberta health regions – minimum \$43.67/hour, maximum \$56.32/hour, 9 steps. Effective April 1, 2014.
- British Columbia health regions – minimum \$42.01/hour, maximum \$44.35/hour. Effective April 1, 2014.
- Manitoba health regions – minimum \$35.707/hour, maximum \$41.192/hour, 5 steps. Effective April 1, 2012.

The current SAHO/HSAS collective agreement expired March 31, 2013.

## **CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Having reviewed the employer information, and considering the labour market criteria defined by the market supplement framework, the Market Supplement Review Committee recommends to maintain the current market supplement for the Perfusionist classification.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Market Supplement Consideration Request – Perfusionist**

#### **Respondents**

1. Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region
2. Saskatoon Health Region