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## ***HEALTH CARE PROTECTION ACT***

### **REPORT TO ALBERTANS**

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**Subject:** Amending Service Agreement under the *Health Care Protection Act* (HCPA)

**Region:** Calgary Health Region

**Facility:** Health Resource Centre – Calgary (HRC)

**Surgical Service:** Insured Inpatient Orthopedic Surgical Procedures

**Term:** October 18, 2006 to January 31, 2007

#### **Background:**

The Calgary Health Region has had a service agreement with Health Resource Centre (HRC) to provide insured inpatient orthopedic surgical services (primary hip and knee arthroplasty procedures) since November 2002. The existing service agreement expires October 17, 2006.

#### **Proposal:**

CHR submitted a proposal for an amendment to their existing service agreement with HRC for insured inpatient orthopedic procedures. The proposal requested the following:

1. A three month extension to the existing agreement term (October 18, 2006 to January 31, 2007).
2. Addition of primary shoulder arthroplasty procedures – up to 67 procedures.
3. Addition of lumbar posterior spinal fusion procedures (not exceeding two disc-space levels) – up to 151 procedures.
4. Addition of lumbar spinal laminectomy procedures (not exceeding two disc-space levels) – up to 82 procedures.

**Assessment Summary:**

In reviewing proposals, Alberta Health and Wellness considers whether there is an impact on the publicly funded health care system and whether public interest is being served. The Calgary Health Region's experience to date with HRC performing insured surgical services, has been successful in providing additional operating room capacity and reduced wait lists for hip and knee replacement procedures in the region. To date there has been no determination of a negative impact on the public system as a result of HRC performing these insured surgical procedures.

HRC is accredited by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) to perform the inpatient orthopedic surgical procedures.

The reason for a three month amendment is to facilitate sufficient time for the Calgary Health Region and HRC to discuss how the region can maximize HRC's surgical capacity in terms of the types and volumes of procedures performed within a reasonable funding model.

**Service Agreement Amendment:**

The Calgary Health Region's proposal to amend their existing service contract with HRC has been approved.

The service agreement amendment continues to provide the Calgary Health Region with the ability to increase regional operating room capacity to meet the health needs of the population and increase accessibility and reduce wait lists within the region for insured inpatient orthopedic surgical procedures.

*Paddy Meade  
Deputy Minister  
Alberta Health and Wellness*