



## **CAME Voice/Voix**

### **A New Assessment Blueprint for the Medical Council of Canada – Dr. Claire Touchie**

The Medical Council of Canada (MCC) was established in 1912 to create a national qualification in medicine that would be acceptable to all provinces. Over the years, the examination and assessment processes have evolved consistent with the needs of Canadian society and scientific advances in assessment. The new assessment blueprint is one of the ways the MCC is making changes.

In order to provide valid interpretations of test scores, validity evidence of appropriate content must be obtained. In the case of a high-stakes licensing examination, the process should ensure that the necessary knowledge, skills and behaviours required for entry into practice is included in the overall blueprint. A multistep process was used to design a new blueprint to fulfill the purpose of the Licentiate of the Medical Council of Canada (LMCC). Sources of evidence from (1) a national survey of physicians and the public, (2) a report of incidence and prevalence of disease in Canada, (3) a study on the supervision of first year residents and (4) a paper on the future of assessment for medical education were used by subject matter experts who proposed a common blueprint for assessment of individuals about to enter residency training and those ready to enter independent practice.

The outcome was a two-dimensional blueprint defined by the following axes: (1) Dimensions of Care (Health Promotion and Illness Prevention, Acute Care, Chronic Care, and Psychosocial Aspects of Care) and (2) Physician Activity (Assessment/Diagnosis, Management, Communication, and Professional Behaviours). Following extensive consultation of stakeholders, the new MCC Blueprint for assessment was approved by its Council in September 2014. Plans for implementation are underway and the Blueprint is expected to be applied to the existing examinations in 2017-2018.

The full report is available at <http://mcc.ca/wp-content/uploads/Blueprint-Report.pdf>. If you want to find out more about blueprinting for assessments and the new MCC Blueprint, join the CAME Webinar on Tuesday November 18 (12:00 EST). Register and pay online at [https://came-acem.ca/events\\_en.php](https://came-acem.ca/events_en.php)