

Francophone participation at Family Medicine Forum

This letter is in response to Dr Ladouceur's editorial.¹ For a long time, I have felt saddened by, and sometimes even angry at, the Family Medicine Forum Committee for the way space is allocated to French presentations. For years, I have made the effort to contribute presentations in French, sometimes while also contributing additional presentations in English, depending on the year. My English presentations were usually assigned to large rooms with simultaneous interpretation, while my French presentations—sometimes covering similar topics, and which should have generated the same level of interest—were assigned to locations that were often difficult to find. French-language topics are rarely integrated into long plenary sessions, even though they would be easy to integrate. So yes, after getting tired of putting in the effort and despite my participation at Family Medicine Forum, I stopped submitting abstracts. Let me know if the committee decides to change its attitude!

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Acknowledgment

Dr Dominique Tessier was President of the College of Family Physicians of Canada in 2001-2002.

Competing interests

None declared

Reference

1. Ladouceur R. Silence of Francophone family physicians. *Can Fam Physician* 2022;68:87 (Eng), 88 (Fr).

Can Fam Physician 2022;68:251. DOI: 10.46747/cfp.6804251

Reflection on the Outcomes of Training project

I was pleased to read in Dr Francine Lemire's column in the January issue of *Canadian Family Physician*¹ that there are plans to increase the family doctor residency program to 3 years. I do not see why the 3-year residency program has to wait until 2030 to have its first graduates.

I have been retired since 2017 after 49 years of family practice and anesthesia. They were good years. Initially our group had 5 doctors and at the time of my retirement we had 11. The family doctor is pulled between the 2 poles of work-life balance. The profession of family practice is more of a vocation. Hopefully the first character assessment is at the resident's admission day.

I cringe when I read about the "lifestyle" discussions. My take on this: If you are looking for the proverbial lifestyle, do not go into family practice. If you do, accept that you will miss weddings, social evenings, funerals, and so on.

—Gabriel G. Lemoine MD
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Competing interests

None declared

Reference

1. Lemire F. Beyond primary care: update on the Outcomes of Training project. *Can Fam Physician* 2022;68:80 (Eng), 79 (Fr).

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