

March E-bulletin In The News

Full Circle Clinic - Perinatal Care & Gynecology (formerly West Coast Perinatal Care)

New specialist maternity and women's health clinic in Victoria! The clinical team includes gynecologists, high-risk pregnancy specialists, family physicians, midwives, nurses, allied health workers and support staff. Their goal is to provide comprehensive, timely, high-quality care with continuity and wrap around support in one location.

They work collaboratively to provide high-quality care through the following specialized clinics:

- Urgent Gynecology assessment clinic
- Pelvic organ prolapse clinic (prolapse and pessary care)
- Women's sexual health clinic
- PAP test / IUD / Nexplanon clinic
- General Gynecology clinic
- Early pregnancy assessment clinic
- Pregnancy loss clinic
- Preconception counseling clinic
- Recurrent pregnancy loss clinic

All providers and services at the clinic receive referrals through a single referral form which can be found on **Pathways**. Referring providers can refer to a specific physician, or they can refer to the "1st available" physician, which may result in a shorter wait time.

If Physicians, Midwives or Nurse Practitioners have any questions about Full Circle Perinatal Care and Gynecology, please contact: W. Kim MacDonald at williamkimmacdonald@gmail.com or by phone at 778-873-1739.

PHSA - BCCDC - Overview of Syphilis for Healthcare Providers in BC

The BCCDC's STI Education Team has developed a comprehensive **Overview of Syphilis Course** tailored specifically to healthcare providers in British Columbia. This course is designed to benefit all clinicians involved in the case management and follow-up of syphilis cases and their contacts. The course is also accredited by the Division of Continuing Professional Development at UBC (UBC CPD). The completion of the course is eligible for up to **2.0 Mainpro+ / MOC Section 3 credits**. More info & register for the course [here!](#)

Coming Together for Patients Event a Success

On January 30, 104 physicians – Victoria and South Island family physicians and their specialist colleagues – attended the **Coming Together for Patients** event. Hosted by the Victoria Division, the event was intended for socializing, building connections, and sharing ideas to improve referrals for everyone.

The majority of attendees (98%) reported the event helped strengthen collegiality among physicians and improved understanding of the challenges faced by colleagues regarding referrals. "Amazing turnout, much higher than I would have imagined, with specialists from so many disciplines! Speaks to the desire to collaborate and improve workflow between doctors in our community," said Victoria Division member **Dr. Fred Voon**, local emergency physician and South Island Medical Staff Association co-president.

A number of quality improvement ideas were generated from the evening and have already inspired a few **small changes** by some physicians who hope to improve the referrals experience for their colleagues. Here are two examples:

- **Specialists** at the event stressed the importance for family physicians to include a question they want answered within the referral. This provides specialists with a clear understanding of what they need to address when meeting with a patient.
- **Family physicians** shared their need to receive a referral acknowledgement from the specialist and, if possible, an estimated wait time. These two things can dramatically reduce the administrative burden for family practices while helping to keep patients informed about referral status.

If you would like to attend any upcoming referrals events, please email **Mel Murray** at mmurray@victoriadivision.ca and ask to be added to the invitation list.

Perinatal Care Updates

- The Shared Care Perinatal Project: Development of a Culturally Safe Team-Based Perinatal Care Model for the Greater Victoria area has officially kicked off, with our first steering committee meeting in January 2024. The committee members, comprising of co-chairs Hayley Bos, OB and Stephanie Mancini, FP-OB. Along with committee members Sarah Lea, FP-OB; Astrid Fritzche, RM; Nathalie Pambrun, RM; and Melanie Mason. Initial priorities include:
 - Collaborating with ADR Education to develop an Interdisciplinary Engagement Strategy for providers
 - Development of an evaluation plan
 - Beginning to identify the target population for the clinic
- The Coastal Maternity contract has been finalized as of January 1, 2024 and there has been an increase of 4 FP-OBs providing perinatal care bringing the total to 28.
- The VGH AAU Unattached Perinatal clinic is expected to be busy over the summer months, with an estimated range of deliveries each month from 37 to 56.
- The Attachment Coordinators are always looking for longitudinal FPs and NPs who are willing to attach postpartum parents and newborns. If you are interested, please let us know.

For any perinatal-related questions or inquiries, please feel free to reach out to our Project Manager, **Sheri Fielding**, at 780-932-6270.

MAID in Hospital

For a variety of reasons there are not have enough hospitalists in RJH/VGH at the moment. The reasons are a combination of difficulty recruiting, retirements and part-time hospitalists devoting more time to office work, and increased hospital occupancy and workload. The result of this is that the hospitalists have to stop their MAID consult service. The leadership thinks this will be temporary but solving it for the long term means recruiting more hospitalists or decreasing occupancy, neither of which will be quick or easy.

For these reasons, if any of your patients seek MAID they will likely find a growing waitlist. If you have not done a MAID assessment before then please know that it is not difficult. In order to learn the processes, please visit <https://learninghub.phsa.ca/Learner/Home>, create an account and search MAID. The modules will give you the background you need. If you have a patient who is requesting MAID and you have done as much in the way of assessments as you can please refer them to the MAID Coordination Centre. Within the MAID coordination centre, they will prioritize cases based on acuity, not location.

Island Health MAID program | [250-727-4382](tel:250-727-4382) (Greater Victoria) | Toll Free: [1-877-370-8699](tel:1-877-370-8699) maid@islandhealth.ca

Expansion of the LFP Payment Model - Facility-based Care

DoBC & BCFD provide an overview of expansion of the LFP Payment Model including maternity, LTC, in-patient & palliative. Watch the full presentation [here!](#)

What Does it Mean to Become a Family Practice Preceptor?

Interested in becoming involved as a Preceptor to a UBC Family Practice Resident? The UBC Department of Family Practice Residency Program is always looking for community physicians with an enthusiasm for contributing to the education of our Family Practice Residents, your soon to be colleagues!

Residents complete approximately 12 months of their two years of training in a local assigned family practice office in addition to a minimum of two months in a rural community. The remainder of their training allows for exposure in various areas of medicine as well as elective options. Read more about the program [here!](#)

Approaches and Pharmacotherapies for Patients Living with Alcohol Use Disorder (APPLAUD) Action Series: Accepting Primary Care Team Applications

Primary care practitioners face challenges in screening and treating alcohol use disorder (AUD) effectively. From rapidly evolving treatment guidelines to the stigma surrounding AUD, practitioners can feel hesitant when asking patients about alcohol use. Health Quality BC in partnership with the [Canadian Alcohol Use Disorder Society](#) is launching the Approaches and Pharmacotherapies for Patients Living with Alcohol Use Disorder (APPLAUD) Action Series. Equip your primary care team with evidence-informed and patient-centred tools by consulting and teaming-up with colleagues from across BC.

Visit healthqualitybc.ca to sign up for the four-month APPLAUD Action Series today. Funding is available for practitioner and medical office assistant time to attend.

For any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact substanceuse@healthqualitybc.ca.

Home and Office for Sale in Victoria

John R. Cook - a psychologist at Aegis Psychological Services Inc. - who is about to retire from practice here in Victoria. He has an office building and house he would like to sell to a physician who may be thinking of setting up office here. Discover the perfect blend of professional and personal spaces in this exquisite residential property! For the discerning physician seeking a harmonious work-life balance, this meticulously maintained house boasts a detached, purpose-built office building just steps from the back door. Immerse yourself in a tranquil neighborhood while enjoying the convenience of a dedicated workspace, fostering clear boundaries between professional and personal life. With Victoria's Broadmead neighborhood as your backdrop, experience the serene surroundings that complement your profession. Say goodbye to renting and invest in ownership to enjoy long-term financial benefits. Elevate your practice, enhance your lifestyle - seize this unique opportunity to own a home and office that truly resonate with your needs. Welcome to your ideal haven for productivity and tranquility! Click on this link for further details <https://realtorhd.com/Saanich-East-BC/4506-Chatterton-Way/2ec2c>

Innovative liver cancer treatment now available on Vancouver Island

An advanced therapy that targets tumours with a high dose of focused radiation while sparing surrounding healthy tissue is now available in the Island Health region, providing another potential treatment option closer to home for liver cancer patients.

The treatment, referred to as transarterial radioembolization, or TARE for short, uses tiny beads containing radioactive material to slow down the growth of liver tumours and help alleviate symptoms. Read the full article [here!](#)

Island Health expands innovative virtual palliative care

Complementing the robust in-person palliative care supports that Island Health offers, Virtual Palliative Supportive Care (VPSC) is extending its reach to the whole of Island Health residents including in remote regions and setting a new standard for accessibility and compassion in healthcare. Read the full article [here!](#)

Urban Locum Program (ULP) Greater Victoria Pilot extended

The ULP Greater Victoria Pilot, initially set to end June 30, 2024, has been extended until March 31, 2025. We're grateful that we can continue to work towards meeting your increasing demand for physician coverage.

The program currently has 17 locums providing coverage in varied capacities, and 140 host physicians from 47 clinics from the Victoria and South Island PCNs have joined. Remarkably, ULP locums have covered 900 shifts between October 2022 and February 2024.

The demand for locum coverage still surpasses the supply, with the ULP having fulfilled 49% of the coverage requests since the pilot started.

If you haven't joined yet, we're still accepting applications from both locum and host physicians who want to be part of this innovative program. Find details on benefits and how to join [here](#).

Have feedback or questions? Contact Becky Litt at blitt@victoriadivision.ca

Welcome our new FP Recruitment & Retention Coordinator!

Niki Bouchard is on a mission to bring Family Physicians to the South Island. Well versed in great meals, local history and fantastic conversation, Niki aims to charm family physicians and their families into relocating to our area. When not busy rescuing her cat (with no ears and half a tail), Niki can be found visiting, walking the local beaches or forests.

She has been involved in family medicine for over 30 years as: the EMR Practice Consultant for Accuro for BC, Operations Management, Physician Relations, Office Management in Family Practice, Walk-in Clinics, Surgery and Cardiology -even spending time as a Stress Test Technician. She has worked in BC, Alberta and Northern Saskatchewan and is thrilled to be back on her Island home.

Her passion for healthcare, the island, making connections confirm her to be well suited for the recruitment and retention position. With an open heart, a lending ear, and a great sense of humour she is excited to begin her journey with us. In order to support your clinics better, please contact Niki directly with your current and anticipated vacancies at recruitment@sidfp.com or cell 250-812-6303.



After Hours Care Program (AHCP) Updates

In January 2024, The Family Practice Services Committee (FPSC) announced that the AHCP pilot, a partnership with HealthLink BC and Divisions' of Family Practices, has transitioned to an ongoing Provincial Initiative, providing continued support to providers and their patients for after-hours care. Click [here](#) to view the latest announcement.

Following the announcement, the AHCP service is receiving multiple calls from patients in the South Island & Victoria regions whose primary care providers are not registered with the program. To ensure adequate follow-up, we would like to get those interested in joining registered. Read more about the program [here](#)!


For any questions or inquiries, please feel free to reach out to our Project Manager,

Myla Yeomans-Routledge at myla.yr@sidfp.com

Get Involved

March 13

BREAKING CHAINS: SUPPORTING PATIENTS WHEN STRUGGLING WITH SUBSTANCE USE



PRESENTERS

Dr. Ramm Hering, *Physician Lead, Primary Care Capacity Building, Addiction Medicine (Island Health)*

Amanda Chapman, *Addiction Medicine Education Lead (Island Health)*

WEDNESDAY
March 13, 2024



STARTS FROM
08:00AM - 9:00AM

VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM
Register [HERE!](#)

WHO SHOULD ATTEND
Family Physicians, Family Medicine Residents, Nurse Practitioners, & Allied Health Providers

This one-credit-per-hour group learning program has been certified by the College of Family Physicians of Canada and the BC Chapter for up to one Mainpro+® credit.

If you have any questions about this event, please contact events@sidfp.com

VIC-SI LTCI LEARNING SERIES EVENT

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
This presentation is open to physicians, nurses, and allied health professionals practicing in Long-term care.

New Date
WEDNESDAY
Mar 13
2024
5-6:30 PM PST

VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

LTCI Learning Series
Medical Ethics in Long-term Care

Learning Objective: To explore case based ethical scenarios in Long-term Care

Join colleagues for an evening of education at the LTCI Virtual Learning Series

Enjoy a presentation by Jillian Boerstler, a Bioethicist at Island Health



Mainpro This presentation has been certified for 1.5 Group Learning Mainpro+ credits from the College of Family Physicians of Canada

CLICK TO REGISTER

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

5-6:30 PM
PACIFIC TIME

ONLINE VIA
ZOOM

RSVP BY
OCT 17






Funded & Fun CME about Pre-Surgical Optimization for FPs, SPs & their MOAs

This multi-specialty event will provide an overview of the impacts of inadequate pre-operative optimization on surgical cancellations and poor patient outcomes. Come and learn about the simple things each of us can do to improve outcomes using the new SPOC care pathway in Pathways. **Physicians will be paid 1.5 hours of sessional payment following completion of an evaluation at the end of the webinar. REGISTER by March 13, space is limited.**

Mar 14 (Thurs) | 5:30pm | Virtual via Zoom

Virtual Mindful Mondays!

Mindful Mondays are back! Here are the upcoming sessions from **8pm-9pm:**

March 25 - join [HERE!](#)

April 15 - join [HERE!](#)

June 10 - join [HERE!](#)

Division Member's Meeting



DIVISION MEMBERS' MEETING INVITATION

4 APR 2024
5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Dinner provided
VANCOUVER ISLAND TECH PARK
#2201-4464 MARKHAM ST,
VICTORIA, BC

Sign up!

By Mar 28

Family Physicians and Community Pharmacists are invited to dialogue about:
Enhancing Patient Outcomes & Efficiency Through Physician-Pharmacist Partnerships

- Role clarity
- Challenges & successes
- Communication & protocols

RSVP your spot for our next quarterly meeting by scanning the QR code below
Thurs Jun 6th 2024 5:30pm - 8pm

South Island Division of Family Practice
An FPSC initiative

Island Medicine Conference - Registration Open!

Dr. Chris Morrow at the Island Medical Program Physician Education Program (PEP) is excited to announce that registration has opened for the third annual Island Medicine Conference! This primary care focused conference will be hosted at the **Victoria Conference Centre and Royal Jubilee Hospital on May 3-4, 2024.**

The first day is packed with concise and relevant update talks followed by engaging breakout sessions. The popular optional day two Skills Session consists of expert led hands-on small group learning stations.

The last two conferences have been very successful in delivering relevant and up to date skills and information that you can apply directly to your practice. The networking and food are definitely highlights as is the networking reception at the end of day one. It's been so great to get together and meet our colleagues and peers in the flesh!

For those looking for a getaway, they have negotiated an excellent room rate at The Empress! To see the full conference agenda and register, please click [HERE!](#)

May 3 (Fri) | 7:15am - 4:15pm | Victoria Conference Centre - 720 Douglas St | Up to 6.0 Mainpro+/ MOC Section 1 credits