

The Difference

PATIENT MEDICAL HOMES and PRIMARY CARE NETWORKS

PATIENT MEDICAL HOME (PMH)



Frees you up to do the work you love to do, and for what brought you into the medical profession in the first place.

PRIMARY CARE NETWORK (PCN)



Get access to the right care for your patients, quickly and conveniently.

PATIENT CARE	Patients get the majority of their care and have an ongoing relationship with a GP.	Patients receive expanded, comprehensive care and improved access to primary care.
WHERE	A family physician practice, or community health centre or health authority clinic.	A clinical network of primary care providers in a geographic area.
PROVIDER	The most responsible provider, usually a family doctor who is supported by a team, directs care in the practice and into the community.	Includes all primary care providers: GPs or NPs in PMHs, allied health providers, health authority services and community health services.
PROVIDER FOCUS	GPs focus on diagnoses, patient relationships, and longitudinal care, with expanded support from teams and networks as needed.	Providers bring team-based services together around GPs and patients in PMHs to enable access, and to better support complex care and vulnerable patient needs.
ROLE IN PATIENT ACCESS	GPs manage patient practice panels and take on new patients when there is capacity to do so.	Networks provide primary care services for the local population and build capacity in the community.
KEY CHANGE	A practice operates with greater use of EMR data, more teams and networks, and better access to clinical services in a community.	Primary care providers work together in new ways and to their strengths, through increased teamwork, communication and linkages.
RESPONSIBILITY	Family doctor(s) with their practice teams.	Divisions of family practices, health authority and community partners.
BETTER FOR PATIENTS	Access to timely, coordinated and comprehensive care that meets patients' range of needs.	
BETTER FOR FAMILY DOCTORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be relieved of caring for all patient needs alone. • Avoid burnout. • Make the most of practice resources, time and capacity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access an array of clinical supports and services outside of the practice. • Be connected to other parts of the system. • Provide better access to care for patients.

THE BIG PICTURE

Helps a practice operate at an ideal level, which in turn creates a strong foundation for primary care networks in the community.

Makes the whole community stronger, which in turn supports GPs to care for patients and create patient medical homes.