

Dear Physician/ Midwife/Community Partner:

Important message re: self-referral/referral of pregnant clients to Public/Community Health Services

This note is to advise how you can access Public/Community Health services for your prenatal clients as early in pregnancy as possible. You can refer by phone, fax or on-line as available (see attached for referral details). Pregnant clients can also self-refer.

How will clients benefit from public health and community health prenatal services? Why refer?

- Public /Community Health prenatal services complement the multi-disciplinary healthcare services to support pregnant clients universally with:
 - ✓ Preventative health screening;
 - ✓ Health promotion;
 - ✓ Finding a primary care provider;
 - ✓ Navigating accurate information;
 - ✓ Referral to other health/community services; and
 - ✓ Access to evidence-based resources such as Baby's Best Chance.
- Public/Community Health can also offer clients who are coping with health-related social needs, more intensive follow-up and enhanced support services including Nurse-Family Partnership (as available) and other evidence-based programs that can be of benefit for maternal and child health.

What happens after public health receives the referral? Once a public health nurse (PHN) receives a referral, they will assess the client's needs and offer them public health and community services to support the healthiest pregnancy possible, starting as early in pregnancy as possible. This information becomes part of the confidential health record and provides nurses with a good starting point to establish a relationship with the client and their family. Health concerns identified in the perinatal period also represent an opportunity for Public/Community Health to develop a plan of care with the client and family.

When is the best time to refer? Early referral by you to public/community health services or encouraging clients to self-refer at the first prenatal contact is very important. Early prenatal care and support result in better outcomes.

How does a physician, midwife, community program refer? How does a client self-refer? Please see the attached detailed referral information.

Thank you for referring pregnant clients to public health services to promote team-based care.

Sincerely,



Dr. Bonnie Henry
Provincial Health Officer
Ministry of Health



Bernard Achampong
Executive Director, Public Health
Prevention and Planning
Ministry of Health

How to refer all pregnant clients to public/community health prenatal registry/program

You can refer a pregnant client by phone, fax or through on-line prenatal registries. A client can also self-refer.

Health Authority	Community where the client resides		
	On-line	By Phone	By Fax
Fraser Health	On-line Registration: Best Beginnings https://bestbeginnings.fraserhealth.ca/default.aspx	Abbotsford 604-864-3400 Agassiz 604-793-7160 Burnaby 604-918-7605 Chilliwack 604-702-4900 Delta – North 604-507-5400 Delta – South 604-952-3550 Hope 604-860-7630 Langley 604-539-2900 Maple Ridge 604-476-7000 Mission 604-814-5500 New Westminster 604-777-6740 Surrey – Cloverdale 604-575-5100 Surrey – Guildford 604-587-4750 Surrey – Newton 604-592-2000 Surrey – North 604-587-7900 Tri-Cities – Port Moody/Coquitlam/Port Coquitlam 604-949-7200 White Rock/South Surrey 604-542-4000	604-918-7491
Interior Health	On-line Registration: Healthy From The Start https://www.interiorhealth.ca/YourHealth/HavingABaby/Pages/HFTSeForm.aspx	Call toll-free 1-855-868-7710 (Mon to Sat, 8:30- 4 pm PST). Messages can be left after hours.	250-868-7809
Island Health	On-line Registration: Right from the Start https://www.islandhealth.ca/our-services/pregnancy-birth-services/right-start	Call the local health unit Mon – Fri, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm: Campbell River 250-850-2110 Comox Valley 250-331-8520 Duncan 250-709-3050 Esquimalt 250-519-5311 Gold River 250-283-2626 Ladysmith 250-755-3342 Lake Cowichan 250-749-6878 Nanaimo 250-755-6200 Peninsula 250-544-2400 Parksville/Qualicum 250-947-8242 Outer Gulf Islands Toll-free 250-539-3099 Port Alberni 250-731-1315 Port Hardy 250-902-6071 Port McNeill 250-956-4711 Saanich 250-519-5100 Salt Spring Island 250-538-4880 Sooke 250-519-3487 Tofino/Ucluelet 250-725-4020 Victoria 250-388-2200 West Shore 250-519-3490	Fax all prenatal registrations/referrals to 1-855-544-2403
Northern Health	For more information about Healthy Start, see link:	For more information: https://www.northernhealth.ca/health-topics/healthy-start#prenatal-registration-questionnaire#have-any-questions#prenatal-registration-questionnaire#have-any-questions	See link
Vancouver Coastal Health	For more information on the VCH Public Health Prenatal Program: http://www.vch.ca/public-health/pregnancy-parenting/pregnancy Online referrals (both self-referral and care provider referral): http://www.vch.ca/public-health/pregnancy-parenting/make-a-referral	Clients can self-refer through the Prenatal Intake Line Toll free at 1-855-550-2229. Referrals by phone: Richmond 604-233-3150 Vancouver 604-301-2227 North Shore 604-983-6700 Squamish/Whistler/Pemberton 604-892-2293 Sechelt/Pender Harbour) 604-885-5164 Gibsons 604-984-5070 Powell River 604-485-3310	Referrals by fax: 604-233-3198 604-321-2947 604-983-6883 604-892-2327 604-885-9725 604-984-5075 604-485-3305