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Thompson Region Division of Family Practice website
Check in regularly for upcoming events and information

Contact Us

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Integrated Practice Support Initiative

The Integrated Practice Support Initiative (IPSI) is designed to understand, improve and replicate alignment between the Divisions of Family Practice, Shared Care, Physician Information Technology Office (PITO) and the Practice Support Program (PSP). The Thompson Region and South Okanagan Similkameen Divisions of Family Practice are working together with physicians, specialists and affected stakeholders on an IPSI project. The focus of this work is on improving processes related to patients at risk or diagnosed with COPD. Activities to date include: finalizing a project plan, developing terms of reference and communication strategy, and delivery of physician focus groups in both Thompson and SOS to review and determine the usefulness of a variety of COPD tools and resources. The focus group information collected will be used to design a template that can be used by both EMR and non-EMR physician practices.

For more information about the project or upcoming IPSI activities, please contact Ron Gorospe, Project Manager, at (250) 319-2527 or ron.gorospe@interiorhealth.ca.



NEW! Endocrinology Telehealth Partners in Care

The prevalence of diabetes continues to rise and access to specialty services to meet this demand is a challenge within our region. This lack of access to specialty services creates many struggles for physicians, care providers, patients and their families. Over the next several months, with funding support from Shared-Care/Partners in Care, we'll prototype specialty consults with Dr. Charlotte Jones, Endocrinologist, to provide support to physicians, specialists, and care providers specializing in Diabetic Care in the Kamloops area. Key goals of this initiative include: Increase physician access to specialty services; Increase the skills and understanding related to endocrinology; Enhance the transition for youth with Type 1 diabetes to adult care; Ensure management of Gestational Diabetes is provided with support; Enhance support for management of more complex patients with diabetes; and, Improve the experience for physicians, care providers, patients and families. Further processes for FP to access this tele-endocrinology service will be developed and communicated to you all.

For more information, or if you wish to participate in these important initiatives, please call: Lisa Fuller, Project Lead, Thompson Region Division of Family Practice. 250-372-1621. lfuller@divisionsbc.ca

Divisions of Family Practice

An initiative of the General Practice Services Committee

www.divisionsbc.ca

Board Members

- Shirley Sze
- Chip Bantock
- Graham Dodd
- Krista Bradley
- Miranda du Preez
- Bruce Newmarch
- Lennard Pretorius

Support Staff

- Chris Hollstedt Executive Director
- Lisa Fuller, Transitions in Care Project Lead
- Vivian Van Dorne, Office Administrator

Newsletter Production Team

- Shirley Sze
- Vivian Van Dorne

Submissions for the October newsletter must be provided to vvandorne@divisionsbc.ca by October 15, 2013

As always, please email the Division at thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca if you need more information on any particular topic or wish to volunteer for something, anything!

New Process for Home Health clients accessing Interior Health (subsidized) Assisted Living

In 2010 the Ministry of Health changed the policy on how Home Health clients in B.C. are waitlisted for Assisted Living sites (Home and Community Care Policy 5B1). The policy now states, "Health authorities must establish a process for determining which clients with equal need and urgency will have priority access to assisted living services."

As a result of this change in policy, the Health Authority will commence wait listing Home Health clients, who are eligible for assisted living services, by an urgency score as of Sept 30th 2013. A client's urgency score will be determined by the Home Health clinician during the assessment process.

In the event that two waitlisted Assisted Living clients have been assigned equal urgency scores, the Assisted Living suite will be offered to clients by chronological order. The chronological date is the date the client was placed on the Assisted Living waitlist. Clients receive the following information to help explain the process, please [click here to view](#).

If you have any questions or concerns about this policy please contact [Lana Mathers at lana.mathers@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:LANA.mathers@interiorhealth.ca) or Cathy Thibault at cathy.thibault@interiorhealth.ca or 250-377-6500 ext 4073.

UpToDate Webinar

Division members are invited to learn how to make the most of UpToDate, which is available to you free of charge with your membership. UpToDate is shown to improve quality of care and patient outcomes, because it provides evidence-based clinical recommendations. Physicians get online, point of care access to more than 10,000 clinical topics in 21 specialties, all peer-reviewed by top specialists from around the world. It has answers to 90% of all clinical questions in typically less than two minutes, saving time for both the physician and patient, including differential diagnostics. Using UpToDate is also eligible for CME MainPro credit. These webinars are being organized by the [Vancouver Division of Family Practice](#). Vancouver has also extended the invitation to other division physicians and staff throughout BC.

During the webinar, UpToDate trainers will show participants how to access the award-winning mobile app for iOS, Android and Windows 8 tablet devices. The app will enable you to have the latest evidence-based clinical content in the palm of your hand. Find out more information about: [these webinars](#) or [the many benefits of UpToDate](#)

Session Information

When (attend any webinar session of your choice) October 8: 8-9am, 12-1pm or 5:30-6:30pm November 7: 12-1pm or 5:30-6:30pm

[Please click here to register](#)

Important Updates

Check out these important updates and more on the [Division website](#).

Transitions in Care (TiC) The work underway regarding the transition of the frail elderly from acute care to residential and community settings is currently conducting work in three priority areas: Consistent discharge planning, developing a resource that outlines all community resources for frail elderly, and reducing unnecessary medications through Polypharmacy. For more information please contact Lisa Fuller, Project lead at (250)-574-8885 or lfuller@divisionsbc.ca.

MEND and **ShapedownBC** are weight management programs for BC children to assist them and their families to achieve healthy weights. These programs are offered free of charge. **MEND** is provided by participating YMCAs and BC Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA) member municipal recreation centers. **ShapedownBC** is provided by Health Authorities, in partnership with YMCAs and BCRPA member municipal recreation centers.

Kamloops Healthy Weights for Children; Shapedown is now accepting referrals and will be starting the family Intake/Assessment process in the following weeks the first group session will run in January 2014. To access the physician referral form please [click here](#). An updated version of the **Shapedown/MEND** program contacts is also now available to access please [click here](#).

Integration of IHA Community Services (IPCC) Hiring of dedicated staff to support physician offices in community is underway. Further work to define geographic location of services will be completed.

Diabetes Collaborative A number of resources have been developed by the Kamloops team. Please [click here](#) for resource information sheet.

Residential Care Upcoming request for input into the Provincial review of these services – stay tuned for opportunities.

Palliative Care Further review of support for palliative care services is being done by working group at the provincial level as part of the in hospital remuneration support. Please stay tuned for further information.

Participation Opportunities

Join our Division at Canada's Premier Family Medicine Conference

Be part of the Division Recruitment Team at the Family Medicine Forum November 7-9 in Vancouver. Our Division will be onsite to market our community as the ideal place to live, work and play. If you're planning to attend the conference, and are willing to spend time talking with delegates contact Dr. Wayne Dong or Chris Hollstedt at thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca. For more information or to register please [click here](#).

The Recruitment and Retention Committee is looking for physicians that are interested in participating on the committee. For more information please contact Dr. Wayne Dong wdlexan@hotmail.com.

A GP for Me and In Patient Care Based on member support, the Division has secured funding to pursue the assessment and planning phase of the GP for Me/Attachment initiative. We're actively recruiting for a Project Lead and member volunteers to sit on the advisory committee. For more information contact Chris Hollstedt at 250-372-1621 or chollstedt@divisionsbc.ca.

Child and Youth Mental Health A Provincial Collaborative with local action teams will be looking at creating an inventory of resources in the community, developing an integrated team approach to assist the patients and their families as well as coordinated educational activities for all healthcare providers involved in the care of this patient group. For more information or to participate, please contact Division office at 250-372-1621

Upcoming Meetings

Division Board of Directors Your Division Directors meets monthly to review progress and develop strategies to address emerging opportunities. If you'd like to attend or present an information item for any of the upcoming meetings please send an email to thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca and we'll do our best to accommodate.

2013 scheduled meetings are; September 30, October 28, and December 2.

Thompson Collaborative Services Committee The Thompson Collaborative Services Committee (CSC) is a forum where the Division, Interior Health Authority, Ministry of Health and the General Practices Services Committee present clinical issues of concern for patient care outcomes, co-determine priorities and co-design solutions, calling on additional voices from patients and the community as needed. The CSC is an innovative way of co-generating solutions to the complex, serious and interconnected issues facing the health care system, the delivery of care and the experience of care.

If you have information or issues you'd like to bring to the attention of the CSC please contact us at thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca .

2013 scheduled CSC meetings are: October 18, November 14, and December 12.