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Visit Us Online

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

Contact Us

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Ring in the New Year We wish all our members a safe and happy holiday season. December is often the month we reflect on the past and look forward with optimism to the New Year. And 2013 certainly is ending on some high notes:

- ❖ Results from our in-hospital care prototype informs the development of the Inpatient Care Program incentives for family physicians with hospital privileges [click here to view](#).
- ❖ A creative short term solution for unattached complex high needs patients results in 550 people now with a family docs
- ❖ The Associate and Community On Call service means community physicians have the backup they need to ensure they are reachable
- ❖ Women now have access to information on how to access Family Physicians who provide individualized maternity and medical care in Kamloops and the surrounding region to visit the website [click here](#).
- ❖ Members profiled our community at the Family Medicine Forum, resulting in approximately 50 physicians expressing interest in working in our community.
- ❖ With financial support from SharedCare, and significant input from physicians, RIH has a new discharge algorithm for frail elderly patient to prototype in the New Year.
- ❖ Physician leadership is informing multi-agency solutions to address gaps in care for children and youth with mental health and substance use issues
- ❖ Your input results in a new model for integrated primary community care teams, coming to your office soon (if you so desire)
- ❖ The UBC Family Medicine Residency Program team has the support they need for a launch in 2014.
- ❖ The Division secured funding and a strong operational team to complete the assessment and planning phases of a GP for Me – a means to collaboratively identify problems, conduct a comprehensive assessment of our local primary care system, and develop a community plan that, when implemented, addresses the primary care systems gaps and ensures sustainable capacity for the present and future needs of the Thompson Region – look to the New Year for your opportunity to get involved in this important initiative and help shape the future of family medicine in our community!

These accomplishments reflect well on the talent and wealth of knowledge in our physician community. Enabling your voice to be heard through Divisions is an honour and a privilege. Moving into 2014, based on your priorities, physician recruitment and retention, the GP for ME initiative, integration of primary community health services, and systems solutions to address the needs of patients most in need will occupy a significant amount of our agenda. This while being mindful that solutions must assure the health and wellbeing of you, our members. We welcome the opportunity to listen to your perspectives. On behalf of the Division Board and operations team, we thank you for your continued interest and enthusiasm. We look forward to working with you in 2014.

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 Team

- Chris Hollstedt Executive Director
- Lisa Fuller, Transitions in Care Project Lead
- Vivian Van Dorne, Office Administrator
- Sandy Taylor, Finance
- Gerriane Clare - GP for Me

Newsletter Production Team

- Shirley Sze
- Vivian Van Dorne

Submissions for the December newsletter must be provided to vvandorne@divisionsbc.ca by January 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!

GP for me and our Community

an evening to learn more about how we can help/ strengthen the GP/Patient relationship & make Kamloops and area the place of choice for family physicians. Please join us January 15, 2014 at the Hotel 540, 540 Victoria St. (or by virtual seminar) from 5:30 – 7:30pm. A working dinner will be available from 5:30 – 6:30. RSVP to thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca or by fax at 250-372-1610. For more information on the evening please click [here](#).

Integrated Practice Support Initiative (IPSI)

is a joint project involving both the Thompson and South Okanagan Similkameen (SOS) Divisions of Family Practice. Focus groups have continued in October and November to gather input for the development of a COPD template to be tested in each local area. The Thompson IPSI working group will be seeking physicians to test and provide feedback on the template. The group will also be seeking ideas and suggestions regarding the coordination of PSP and PITO services to better support physicians. Your feed-back as to how to best assist your practices in both practice support and EMR optimization will be helpful in the Provincial design of these services going into the future. You have an opportunity to influence the design and I hope many of you will take advantage of it. A survey will be circulated to all physicians in both areas in January. If you are interested in participating in any of these upcoming IPSI activities please contact Ron Gorospe, Project Manager at 250-319-2527 or ron.gorospe@interiorhealth.ca and/or Dr. Shirley Sze, President and Co-Chair, Thompson Region Division of Family Practice at wmsze@telus.net.

Transitions in Care -Frail Elderly Project Update

The discharge algorithm is developed for frail elderly transitioning from acute to home. This discharge algorithm is being tested on 4 North at RIH beginning in mid-December. Please provide any feedback you have on this initiative to Lisa Fuller, Project Lead, Transitions in Care lfuller@divisionsbc.ca or 250.574.8885 for more information.

Endocrinology Telehealth Prototyping

Details on the Endocrinology telehealth pilot project are being finalized. We will be testing out the process and establishing a start date. Please watch for details in January on this telehealth initiative to support physicians and specialists delivering service to patients with diabetes. For more information, please contact Lisa Fuller at lfuller@divisionsbc.ca or 250.574.8885.

Transitions in Care -Polypharmacy

A focus group will be held in early January to discuss the issues and priorities for Polypharmacy as frail elderly transition from RIH to residential care. We would like your input! Please watch for your invitation in early January. For more information, please contact Lisa Fuller at lfuller@divisionsbc.ca or 250.574.8885.

Important Updates & Participation Opportunity

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

Division Office Christmas Hours please note that we will be closed for Christmas holidays starting December 23 reopening January 6 2014. Have a safe and Happy Holiday.

Physician Data Collaborative to learn about the PDC's job opportunity, board opportunity and next general meeting, [click here](#).

A New Living with Diabetes Support Group has been created in Westsyde for more information on how to participate please [click here](#).

Kamloops Diabetes Resource sheet is available by [clicking here](#).

A GP for Me and In Patient Care

A reminder that video presentations are available on the GPSC website to help you learn more about A GP for Me and In-Patient Care fee codes that became available for billing April 1, 2013. [Click to view](#).

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.

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; January 13, February 3 2014.

Thompson Collaborative Services Committee The Thompson Collaborative Services Committee (CSC) is an innovative way for our division to work with IHA to co-generate 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.

Next CSC meetings are: January 14, 2014.