

EMR Bootcamp – October 6, 2015

When Dr. Andre du Toit mentioned some of the challenges he faced coming back from vacation – stacks of paperwork, labs to review, overworked staff – he never knew that a quick conversation would turn into a successful engagement event.



Despite heavy rush hour traffic on a rainy October evening, 30 South Island and Victoria Division physicians and MOAs gathered at the Royal Colwood Golf Club to join the EMR Bootcamp, an event designed to bring physicians up-to-speed on EMRs that they may come across in their work. With a mix of experienced techies, paper-based physicians, and well-traveled locums, each participant had an opportunity to learn something new.

Representatives from Osler, Oscar, and MedAccess demonstrated a simple clinical scenario in their system, and distributed a step-by-step take-away for physicians.

Island Health listened to some of the challenges faced by GPs and MOAs when accessing PowerChart, and demonstrated some of the upgraded logon features. They also provided an update on the iHealth project, coming soon to a VIHA facility near you.

The evening was rounded out with some small group work, where GPs and MOAs planned how to best prepare their office for a visiting physician. Locums gave their feedback on what supports they need when they provide coverage at a practice:

- Lots of strong coffee!
- A heads up on which EMR a clinic uses. Having remote access to the EMR prior to the locum's start date is also helpful.
- Strong communication between GP and locum regarding complex patients or other atypical visits is key. This might be notes from the MRP or even a brief meeting or phone call to discuss these cases before locums arrive for their first shift.
- For particularly complex patients, it is sometimes prudent to delay appointments during a GP's holiday so that the continuity of care can be maintained when there are many issues or variables.
- It is helpful when MOAs and doctors don't take vacation at the same time so there is someone with knowledge about the practice and patients, and to answer general questions



Copies of all materials distributed are available on the South Island Division website for your reference and use. For further information about the event, please contact erica.kjekstad@sidfp.com