

Excellent health and care for everyone,
everywhere, every time.



September 14, 2020

Clay Barber
Executive Director, South Island Division of Family Practice
4489 Viewmont Avenue
Suite 203
Victoria, BC V8Z 5K8

Dear Clay and South Island DFP Members,

The [BC College of Physicians and Surgeons](#) has approved accreditation standards for community-based procedural pain management offices, practices and clinics; these changes will go into effect September 2020.

All physicians conducting interventional pain procedures will soon receive a letter from the College requesting that they apply for credentialing. In October, providers whose application is rejected by the College will be given until the end of February 2021 to transition/refer their patients to a credentialed provider.

It is anticipated that only [Island Health's RJH and NGRH Pain Clinics](#) and the [Helmcken Pain Clinic](#) will meet credentialing and will be the only clinics allowed to continue to perform [advanced procedures](#) (see page 25).

Based upon BC Ministry of Health data and discussions with community-based pain physicians, Island Health can expect to see an additional 2000 patients; the RJH clinic will be most impacted. This will have significant repercussions on family physicians, and patients experiencing chronic pain. Family physicians who have recently referred their patients to a provider who is not expected to meet the new College guidelines may have their referral returned.

To better support family physicians, two of Island Health's pain physicians have created algorithms to facilitate clinical decision-making. We are interested in receiving feedback on and piloting these algorithms with family physicians in the greater Victoria area. If you are interested in being part of this work, please contact the Executive Director of your respective division by October 7th, 2020.

Sincerely,

Sharon Parkes
Director of Ambulatory Care and Medicine Quality –
Surgery, Ambulatory Care, and Cancer Care Strategy
Sharon.parkes@viha.ca
250.370.8111 x12822

Dr. Alan Buckley
Medical Director of Medicine Quality –
Surgery, Ambulatory Care, and Cancer Care Strategy
Alan.buckley@viha.ca
250-519-7700 x12822

Island Health Pain Management Program

Located at: 1952 Bay Street, Memorial Pavilion, 2nd Floor, Homer
Wing | Victoria, BC V8R 1J8

Tel: 250-519-1836
islandhealth.ca