

Autumn Arrives with Verve!

Are you Effectively Connecting Patients with Counselling?

In team-based care surveys, members have informed that there is a high need for counselling. Local Health Area data reflects this as mild depression and anxiety are the second-highest chronic conditions in Abbotsford. So how are you managing? Are you able to connect them with the most effective resource?

In recent meetings with private registered clinical counsellors, they relayed that many referrals are done ad hoc or seem to occur based on other patients' positive feedback to their physician. Unfortunately, that referral may be for supports that are outside of that counsellor's expertise. Like medicine, counselling is a multilayered world of specialization and subspecialties within them. Not all counsellors offer the same service, have the same credentials or support the same types of patients. How are you expected to know when you are not even sure who they are?

On November 26, the Division will be hosting a Counsellor Meet & Greet at the Sandman Inn on Simon Ave. You will be able to meet the registered clinical counsellors of Abbotsford, hear how they work, differ and can support patients even without extended health benefits. There will be lots of time for networking

This session is one more step in expanding the bandwidth of supports for primary care. Connecting patients to the best services you can trust so that you can provide optimized care.

PARIS to Excelleris Issue Affecting Some MHSU Physician Reports

In June 2019 it became apparent to the Fraser Health Health Informatics (HI) and Mental Health Substance Use (MHSU) teams that there is an issue with some MHSU Physician Reports when exported via Excelleris.

The HI and MHSU teams are aware of the issue where, in certain circumstances, MHSU Physician reports exported from Paris via Excelleris are unexpectedly truncated. This has raised a patient safety concern for everyone involved. However, the problem is sporadic and only affects a subset of Paris Psychiatry reports transmitted via Excelleris making it very difficult to find the root cause to fix the issue. Because the majority of reports are being transmitted normally via Excelleris, it has been decided to continue the export function between Paris and Excelleris.

Resolving this issue is a high priority for all teams. The Health Informatics team has been working closely with the Paris vendor and the MHSU team to resolve the issue. A number of fixes have been attempted, each of which has reduced the number of affected reports. A fix implemented on September 16, 2019 resolved the majority of cases, however there may still be circumstances where a truncated report is sent via Excelleris followed by a corrected report usually within 24 hours.

A permanent fix that fully resolves the issue is expected from the Paris vendor and plans are underway to implement this system change by mid-November. The Health Informatics and MHSU teams are working hard to address the situation and bring it to a successful resolution as soon as possible.



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MRI Appropriateness Checklist



Lower Mainland Medical Imaging (LMMI) is seeking feedback from referring physicians regarding the use of the MRI appropriateness checklist.

The MRI Central Intake Office (CIO) opened in Oct 2018. At the same time an appropriateness checklist for MRI referrals for knee, hip and lumbar spine was developed referencing Choosing Wisely Canada guidelines.

Initial data captured in June 2019 shows that CIO is processing on average 3200 MRI referrals per week.

Of the studies that require an appropriateness checklist, compliance has grown to >95%.

Data is showing a significant downward trend in referrals for knee, hip and lumbar spine MRI exams. As further analysis is done to confirm the impact of the appropriateness checklist, LMMI is looking for feedback on the appropriateness checklist.

Please take a minute to complete this short survey from LMMI:
<https://tinyurl.com/y3avxwdc>

Listen to Episode 3 – from Behind The Stethoscope in Podcasts.

<https://podcasts.apple.com/ca/podcast/episode-3-behind-the-stethoscope/id1462717203?i=1000449219852>

MAID Info & Education

The Medical Assistance in Dying coordination centre at Fraser Health has developed a one-page information sheet for GPs, MRPs. This will help you to answer questions from your patients regarding MAID and the link to documentation (Patient Request Record and the Assessor form) that will initiate the MAID process.

The link below is provided for on line education for anyone who would like to learn more.

<https://learninghub.phsa.ca/Courses/18953/medical-assistance-in-dying-aid-a-community-simulation>

For more information please contact:

MAID Care Coordination Centre
MCCC@fraserhealth.ca

Re-developed Community Cardiac Nurse Practitioner Role in Abbotsford and Mission

The community cardiac nurse practitioner (NP) role at Abbotsford Regional Hospital (ARH) has been re-developed to provide care to homebound patients with congestive heart failure (CHF) who are attached to the ARH Heart Function Clinic, are at the end-of-life, and live in the Abbotsford and Mission communities.

The community cardiac NP will support patients in their community, as well as the out-patient clinic two days a week, and with case-finding at ARH.

Referral pathways have been established to enhance communication and linkages between the community cardiac NP, other healthcare providers, and community services; as well as improve patient care.

Community Physicians and NPs, and Hospitalists:

Consider a referral to the community cardiac NP if you have CHF patients who require:

- End of life cardiovascular care, and
- Symptom management of heart failure.
- Established HF with LVEF <40%
- LVEF >40% with critical cardiac pathology as deemed by cardiologist
- The referral form is included as an insert, and will be available on Forms Imprint in the coming weeks. **Completed referral forms are now being accepted and can be faxed to 604.851.4782.**

Hospitalists

If you are providing care to patients with CHF in the Emergency Department or in-patient units at ARH, look for CCI to Heart Function Clinic or Community Cardiac NP in EDM.

Contact the Community Cardiac NP at 236.332.8493 (available from Monday to Friday, between 0700 and 1500) for consultation and follow-up prior to discharge.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact:

- Mandeep Badesha, Nurse Practitioner (Community Cardiac NP)
- Trena Canning, Director, Clinical Operations
- Katherine Smith, Manager, Clinical Operations

New Physician Smoking Cessation Clinical Resources from Fraser Health

Fraser Health has created a series of clinical resources for community physicians to support them in conducting brief tobacco interventions with patients and determining their smoking status.

The **Smoking Cessation Pharmacotherapy Toolkit** includes information on the Ask and Act Model of Smoking Cessation, as well as pharmacotherapy and drug interaction information. Many smokers want to quit, but need help. Nicotine replacement therapy and prescription medications can increase patients' chances of quitting successfully, even more so when combined with counselling support. The Toolkit is available as a PDF which you are welcome to request from Marnie at abbotsford@divisionsbc.ca.

Vaping is also emerging as a significant source of nicotine addiction. We are also providing information on the topic of vaping products. Together with the BC Lung Association and Vancouver Coastal Health, Fraser Health has developed a Vaping Prevention Toolkit for download: <https://bc.lung.ca/how-we-can-help/vaping/vaping-prevention-toolkit>.

It includes infographics, fact sheets and FAQs suitable for sharing with your patients and families. We know physicians and patients have a lot of questions and health concerns about vaping, and we hope these resources are useful tools. You can find more information on vaping products at Fraserhealth.ca.

If you have any questions about these resources, or would like to request more, please contact Ruth Hellerud-Brown, Project Leader, Healthy Living, Planning and Program Development, at ruth.hellerudbrown@fraserhealth.ca or 604-587-7925 ext. 767925.

Upcoming Cancer Care CMEs

Oncology CME Webcasts Upcoming

BC Cancer's Family Practice Oncology Network hosts accredited monthly Oncology CME Webcasts with UBC's Division of Continuing Professional Development. There is no charge for these practice-ready sessions which run from 8-9:00 a.m., Pacific Time, and are accredited by the College of Family Physicians of Canada for one Mainpro+ credit each. Register at <http://ubccpd.ca/webinars>

November 21: Nasopharyngeal Cancer presented by Dr. Sarah Hamilton, Radiation Oncologist, BC Cancer – Vancouver

January 16: Bladder Cancer presented by Dr. Bernie Eigl, Medical Oncologist, BC Cancer – Vancouver

Most Webcasts are recorded and available at www.fpon.ca. Earn additional Mainpro+ credits through the College: www.cfpc.ca/Linking_Learning_exercises/

Oncology CME For Primary Care @ The BC Cancer Summit, November 22-23

Register at www.bccancersummit.ca

BC Cancer's Family Practice Oncology Network is hosting two significant CME events for family physicians and primary care providers as part of BC Cancer's Annual Summit, November 21-23 @ the Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre.

November 22: GPO Case Study Day – for General Practitioners in Oncology and primary care providers keen to tackle prevalent and emerging challenges in cancer care through case-based discussion. Learn with and from your colleagues gaining insight into breast, endometrial, pancreatic, and renal cancer, and cancer-related thromboembolism.

November 23: Family Practice Oncology CME Day – a one-day opportunity for Family Physicians and primary care professionals to learn about new developments and practice changing guidelines in cancer care, plus to build helpful cancer connections. Gain practice-ready insight into the most in-demand topics in cancer care.

Full details at www.fpon.ca or via jennifer.wolfe@bccancer.bc.ca.

New Interim Guideline for Syphilis Screening in Pregnancy in BC

Effective immediately, BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC), Perinatal Service BC (PSBC), and BC Women's Hospital recommend that all pregnant individuals should have syphilis screening performed at two time points:

1. During the first trimester of pregnancy or at the first prenatal visit (existing recommendation)
2. At time of admission for delivery or any time after 35 weeks for those planning home births (new recommendation).

While syphilis screening remains a choice for pregnant patients and opting out is possible, these guidelines are considered the standard of care due to the infectious, yet treatable nature of syphilis.

The new BC Public Health Laboratory Serology Screening Requisition form is available at:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/resource-gallery/Documents/Guidelines%20and%20Forms/Forms/Labs/SerologyReq.pdf>

Physicians should check off Syphilis Antibody (1st Trimester) in the prenatal screening section, and check the box for Perinatal Syphilis for the 'at delivery' screen. If using any other requisition, document gestational age.

This interim guideline is anticipated to be in place for approximately one year and will be reviewed as the epidemiology of syphilis in the province evolves.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.perinatalservicesbc.ca/health-professionals/guidelines-standards/maternal>

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Community Kudos!

New Physicians Join Abbotsford

- Dr. Amandeep Grewal has joined the team at Cannon Clinic
- Dr. Aman Haji has joined the team at Gateway Health
- Dr. Tristan Kooner will soon be joining the team at Family Health

Congratulations to these parents, who recently welcomed little ones to their family!

- Dr. Shahana Alibhai {boy}, Dr. Clifford Moodley {girl} & Dr. Aman Grewal {boy}

Call for Applications to the Clinician Scholar Program

The UBC Department of Family Practice is offering Clinician Scholar positions for family physicians in family practice scholarship starting July 1, 2020.

These positions are Category 1, Enhanced Skills residency positions, accredited by the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC).

The Clinician Scholar Program (CSP) offers two-year, part-time positions for BC family physicians to pursue family practice scholarship. We are accepting applicants for the 2020-22 cohort with a start date of July 1, 2020. **The application deadline is November 30, 2019.**

For more information, visit the website at <https://research.familymed.ubc.ca/research/clinician-scholar-program-2/> or contact esp.assistant@familymed.ubc.ca.

Upcoming Events

GPSC Data Tools Webinar Series with Health Data Coalition

Wednesday, Oct 23 @ 8-9:30am

Learn about HDC Discover software, QI, assessment & analysis support.

For more info contact evaluations@doctorsofbc.ca. Details & Registration: <https://bit.ly/2mHhfM3>

PMH Nurse in Your Practice: Scopes of Practice

Thursday, Oct 24 @ 5:30 – 8pm, Abbotsford Division office

Workshop #1 in a series of 3. Explore scopes of practice with BC College of Nursing Professionals, additional certifications that could support your practice and much more. Register on Eventbrite <https://pmh-nurse-scopes-of-practice.eventbrite.ca>

PMH Nurse in Your Practice: Fee for Service Billing

Tuesday, Nov 5 @ 5:30 – 8pm, Abbotsford Division office

Workshop #2 in a series of 3. Explore current billing practices and walk through the nurse in practice business tool with the Society of General Practitioners.

Register on Eventbrite <https://pmh-nurse-fee-for-service-billing.eventbrite.ca>

Retirement Planning for Physicians

Thursday, Nov 14 @ 5:30 – 8pm, Quality Hotel & Conference Centre

Hosted in partnership with MD Management & Doctors of BC Insurance. Learn about estate planning, what to do with your corp after retiring and much more. Register on Eventbrite <https://retirement-planning-for-physicians.eventbrite.ca>

Dementia & Depression in the Elderly Event

November 20: 5:15 – 8:15pm @ Quality Inn Hotel & Conference Centre

Part of the Division Shared Care project; Geriatrician and Psychiatrist Speakers plus Practice Support Program will speak about opportunities to receive funding for QI work. Register on Eventbrite <https://older-adults-dementia-depression-event.eventbrite.ca>

Clinical Counselling Network & Education Event

Tuesday, Nov 26 @ 5:30 – 8pm, Sandman Hotel & Suites

Meet your local registered clinical counsellors, enhance your knowledge about scope and areas of practice, learn about how to access these services for your patients. Register on Eventbrite <https://clinicalcounsellors.eventbrite.ca>

PMH Nurse in Your Practice: Human Resources

Tuesday, Dec 5 @ 5:30 – 8pm, Abbotsford Division office

Job descriptions, posting, interviewing, hiring, contracts, onboarding and performance review. Get the skills to do this with ease and learn how the Division can support you. Register on Eventbrite: <https://pmh-nurse-human-resources.eventbrite.ca>

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