

For Immediate Release | April 11, 2017

## Some Kootenay Boundary radiology results under review

Interior Health is initiating a review of diagnostic imaging reports from a radiologist who worked as a locum in the Kootenay Boundary area during the following time periods:

- April 29 to May 31, 2011
- June 4 to 23, 2014

Patients who had exams performed outside of these timeframes are not impacted by these reviews.

The review encompasses diagnostic imaging exam reports for X-rays, CT scans and ultrasounds. Some diagnostic mammography reports will also be reviewed, but not screening mammography.

Patients and their family physicians will be notified promptly if any discrepancies with their reports are found. Whether or not a discrepancy is found, all reread reports will be provided to the family physician and all patients will receive a follow-up letter. Interior Health anticipates reviewing all exams within four weeks.

Interior Health is undertaking this review after recently becoming aware of quality concerns regarding images read by this radiologist. It is important to stress that this review is taking place as a precautionary step, and, until records are reviewed, it is unclear if there is cause for concern for any individual patients. Diagnostic imaging is used to support a physician diagnosis and is not the only factor considered in diagnosis and treatment.

The public should know there are no concerns with the quality of current radiology services provided within the Kootenay Boundary or other areas of Interior Health.

**Please see attached Backgrounder documents for additional information about the review.**

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## Kootenay Boundary radiology review

Further detail related to the Interior Health review of Kootenay Boundary radiology reports.

### Scope of the review:

The review covers 2,191 diagnostic imaging reports for 1,790 individual patients.

It includes reports for X-ray, CT scan, ultrasound, and diagnostic mammography (not screening mammography) exams.

It covers the following periods:

- April 29 – May 31, 2011 – reports read for diagnostic imaging exams undertaken at:
  - Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital
  - Castlegar & District Community Health Centre
  - Arrow Lakes Hospital, Nakusp
  
- June 4 – 23, 2014 – reports read for diagnostic imaging exams undertaken at:
  - Kootenay Lake Hospital
  - Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital
  - Castlegar & District Community Health Centre
  - Slocan Community Health Centre, New Denver
  - Victorian Community Health Centre, Kaslo
  - Boundary District Hospital, Grand Forks

**If individuals did not have exams during these two time periods at these sites, they are not affected.** Interior Health has no concerns with the quality of current radiology services provided within the Kootenay Boundary or other areas of Interior Health.

### Review timeline:

All reports are expected to be reread within four weeks. Radiologists from Kelowna General Hospital will be rereading these reports.

### Patient/physician notification:

Interior Health will be sending updated reports to physicians as exams are reread. In the interim, if patients have questions or concerns regarding diagnostic procedures within the timeframe noted, Interior Health encourages them to speak with their family doctor or contact our Patient Care Quality Office at 1-877-442-2001; use option #4 for radiology review questions if a representative is not available. Alternately, Interior Health has created a dedicated email address for individuals who have questions about their exams: [IHradiology@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:IHradiology@interiorhealth.ca).

All patients who had their exams reread will be contacted directly by Interior Health regardless of the results, whether the re-read report indicates no change or a discrepancy.