



Interior Health
Every person matters



November 28, 2017

To: Medicine & Quality Portfolio; Senior Executive Team; VP Leadership Teams; MSA Presidents; HAMAC; Divisions of Family Practice; IH Board Chair
From: Dr. Alan Stewart, Chief Medical Officer, Quality and Patient Safety

Re: Physician Quality Improvement (PQI) Moves Forward

I am pleased to share that the implementation phase of the Physician Quality Improvement (PQI) initiative announced earlier this spring for Interior Health is well underway.

The PQI initiative is being led by a joint Interior Health / Specialist Services Committee (SSC) steering committee with support from a PQI support team based out of our Medicine and Quality Portfolio (see membership for both groups below).

Over the next several months, the focus is on recruiting interested physicians and developing a specific process for PQI intake and support.

What is PQI and why is it important?

Physician Quality Improvement aims to ensure physicians have access to quality improvement (QI) expertise, data analysis, administrative support, education, and funding support, with a goal to increase physician involvement in quality improvement and enhance the delivery of quality patient care.

The funding support provided through the SSC's Physician Quality Improvement initiative includes up to \$1.3 million per year for training and education, physician time, support staff, and evaluation in the following areas:

- Physician-driven QI projects (like Enhanced Recovery After Surgery)
- Physician performance enhancement projects (like the ones in progress in our emergency departments)
- Quality reviews
- Unit-based quality initiatives

PQI will be aligned with Interior Health's overall quality strategy.

Background and More Information

- [News Article on "In the Loop" News Website – 21 Jun 2017](#)
- [Overview of Specialist Services Committee Physician Quality Improvement Initiative](#)
- [Approved SSC/IH Physician Quality Improvement Proposal](#)

For any questions or more information, please contact Jarnail Dail at 250-469-7070 x 13792 or jarnail.dail@interiorhealth.ca.

PQI Steering Committee

Patient Representative

- **Pam Dawson**, Patient Partner

Clinically Active Physicians

- **Dr. Ron Collins**, Physician QI Advisor
- **Dr. Charles Casselman**, Past President, EKRH Medical Staff Association (Cranbrook)
- **Dr. David Merry**, Past Chair, Kootenay Boundary Division of Family Practice (Trail)
- **Dr. Chris Baliski**, General Surgeon (Kelowna)
- **Dr. Dwight Ferris**, Internal Medicine (Kelowna)
- **Dr. Farin Foroodi**, Hospitalist (Vernon)
- **Dr. Kevin Stevenson**, Psychiatrist (Vernon)
- **Dr. Tom Wallace**, General Surgeon (Kamloops)

Specialist Services Committee

- **Dr. Kathy Lee**, Doctors of BC (Physician Representative)
- **Aman Hundal**, Doctors of BC (Staff Representative)

Interior Health

- **James Chan**, Corporate Director, Quality, Risk & Accreditation
- **Dr. Anneline Du Preez**, HAMAC Representative (Kimberley)
- **Dr. Devin Harris**, HAMAC Representative (Kelowna)
- **Terri Domin**, Health Service Administrator - East Kootenay and Chair of the Access and Care Transitions (ACT) Steering Committee
- **Dr. Alan Stewart**, Chief Medical Officer, Quality & Patient Safety

PQI Support Team

- **Dr. Ron Collins**, Physician QI Advisor (ron.collins@interiorhealth.ca)
- **Jarnail Dail**, Leader, SSC Initiatives, IH Medical Affairs (jarnail.dail@interiorhealth.ca)
- **Ross Gibson**, PQI Consultant, IH West (ross.gibson@interiorhealth.ca)
- **Wrae Hill**, PQI Consultant, IH Central (wrae.hill@interiorhealth.ca)
- **Divya Katoch**, PQI Consultant, IH East (divya.katoch@interiorhealth.ca)
- **Erika Schrank**, **PQI Coordinator** (erika.schrank@interiorhealth.ca)
- Recruitment in progress for:
 - **PQI Data Analyst**
 - **PQI Health Economist**

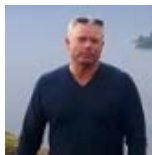
Physician Quality Improvement (PQI) Support Team



Ron Collins
Physician QI Advisor



Jarnail Dail
Leader, SSC
Initiatives



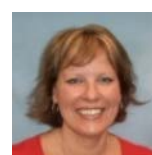
Ross Gibson
PQI Consultant
(IH West)



Wrae Hill
PQI Consultant
(IH Central)



Divya Katoch
PQI Consultant
(IH East)



Erika Schrank
PQI Coordinator