

I've heard this initiative is about having patient information across the continuum of care. Does this mean everywhere on the island?

There is a core data set that will follow a patient no matter where they go within Island Health-owned or operated facilities. The affiliated sites and private sites are not currently part of the integration of the EHR, but there is a longer-term plan to strategize how to integrate this information as well.

Is the eventual plan to make the EHR accessible throughout BC?

Yes. The Ministry of Health in BC has a strategic goal to have one record for each patient across the province.

Does that mean that we will be able to see the records of patients who receive healthcare in other provinces?

No. At this time our EHR will not be able to access the electronic records of patients who receive care in other provinces.

Will a healthcare provider in another province be able to access our EHR?

No. Currently there are no plans to have a direct link to another province's or territory's records. Privacy legislation is one issue that needs to be overcome. There are also technical interoperability issues. Patient records may still be faxed in individual cases, according to current policies.

Will there be integration of the EHR with BC Ambulance Service records?

Currently, the BC Ambulance Service is on a different electronic record system. There is no interoperability at this time. We anticipate that there will be integration with most electronic medical records in the future.

Will patients have access to their EHR information?

Development is underway for a future patient portal that would allow entry of information by the patient and display a "Know Me" view for clinicians within Island Health to view patient goals for health and wellness.

How will the electronic medical records (EMRs) used by community physicians, nurse practitioners and midwives, integrate with the new EHR?

A trial is in place to send notifications to EMRs regarding patient admission, discharge and death. Once regionalized, we will add electronic submission of admission histories, discharge summaries, and procedural notes.

Excelleris is beginning to distribute laboratory and diagnostic imaging reports to EMRs. Soon, we will be receiving pre-operative documentation and summary care plans into the EHR from clinic EMRs.

We are also working towards a Cerner-based EMR that will be available for private primary and specialty physician clinic use. Dr. Steve Holland's office will be the first office to implement this community EMR, at the same time as First Activation at NRGH and Dufferin Place.

Integration FAQs

Integrating the new EHR across the care continuum



Will PharmaNet be integrated with Cerner so that my patients' current Med histories pull into their records?

Yes. Work on this functionality is underway, but is not yet fully built-out and will likely not be ready for the first activation.

When we report patient safety events (e.g., falls and med errors), do these automatically show up in the patient chart under Significant Event?

No. There is no connectivity between the PSLs system (our current incident reporting system) and the EHR.

IHealth: One Person, One Record, One Plan for Health and Care

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