

# ISLAND HEALTH

APRIL 27,  
2022

# MEDICAL STAFF BULLETIN

## COVID-19 Updates:

- [COVID Screening Guideline Changes for Surgery- April 27th](#)  
Surgery COVID-19 Screening Guidelines have been updated to reflect the changing evidence based on the evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and vaccination uptake, as well as transition towards an endemic state.
- [Island Health Post COVID Recovery Clinic offers hope for patients with long COVID](#)  
The RJH clinic is one of five Post-COVID Recovery Clinics in British Columbia established under the umbrella of the provincial Post-COVID-19 Interdisciplinary Clinical Care Network (PC-ICCN). The aim of the clinics is to support the best possible outcomes for patients who are still experiencing severe symptoms three months or longer after a COVID-19 infection.

**COVID-19  
UPDATE**



- [Town Hall Highlights – Pandemic Update](#)

Hospitalization in our region has started to increase from the lowest level in late March. We reached our lowest level of hospitalizations on March 22, with 27, and since then the number of COVID cases in hospital has climbed to 73. COVID therapeutics updates including Paxloid now being prescribed through community providers and Remdesivir is being provided by IV.

- **BC COVID-19 Data:**

- [Data on COVID-19 numbers for BC, Vancouver Island and other health regions](#)
- [PHO/MHO News Release](#)
- [BCCDC COVID-19 Canadian and Global Epidemiology](#)
- [Island Health COVID-19 outbreak updates](#)

**COVID-19 Immunization Updates:**

- [Update to Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2: Immunization, Part 4 – Biological Products](#)

The BCCDC Communicable Disease Manual was updated to indicate that clients requesting a shorter interval between doses should be informed that this is not optimal for protection, but their request for an earlier dose should be granted, without need for MHO approval.

Island Health region Total Vaccines Administered To Date	% Population Immunized (12+) 2nd Dose To Date	% Population Immunized (5+) 2nd Dose To Date	% Population Immunized (12+) Two Doses & Boosters To Date (based on eligibility)
1,973,953	93.4%	90.4%	79.2%

**Spotlight:**

- [Hospital at Home wins Excellence in Patient Experience Award](#)

The Canadian College of Health Leaders has recognized Island Health's Hospital at Home (HaH) program with the 2022 Excellence in Patient Experience Award.

- [An anniversary without celebration](#)  
In April of 2016, the province declared a public health emergency in response to significant increases in opioid-related deaths. In 2016, 993 people died in BC because of poisoned drugs. In 2021, this number increased to 2,232.
- [Regional Pain Programs New Patient Referrals, and Care Pathway](#)  
Updated Regional Interdisciplinary Chronic Pain Program Referral, Direct to Procedure Referral and Care Pathway.
- [Accreditation Preparation in Long-term Care](#)  
The Long-term Care program is well underway in preparing for the upcoming survey in November, 2022! This is a call for all Island Health LTC teams to participate and be quality champions at your site!
- [Community Virtual Care expands regional services](#)  
Community Virtual Care is a merger of Home Health Monitoring (chronic disease management) and Intensive Home Monitoring (COVID and heat exhaustion monitoring) which enhances, expands, and regionalizes community virtual care. The team can now support more clients after-hours and on weekends, providing service from 8a-8p, seven days a week. Community Virtual Care is a *free*, innovative program that uses remote patient monitoring, virtual visits and the telephone to support clients living with chronic disease (Chronic Kidney Disease, COPD, Diabetes, Heart Failure, Hypertension) from the comfort of their home. For more info: **communityvirtualcare@islandhealth.ca** Ph: **250-519-7700 x 11928**
- [MyHealth patient portal includes medical staff-authored notes starting April 27](#)  
On April 27, medical staff (physicians, midwives, nurse practitioners and their learners) will be able to select clinical notes for release to the MyHealth portal for their patients to see.

#### Upcoming Events and Education:

- [Connect & learn QI with Medical Staff colleagues in PQI Cohort 7!](#)  
Starting in September 2022, be a part of PQI's seventh Cohort for an opportunity to connect with colleagues and learn QI at in-person and virtual workshops across Vancouver Island. Applications must be submitted by **May 6th at 1600**.
- [Educate. Inform. Inspire. Stimulate | Research's Five Days in May events.](#)  
This year, Island Health is collaborating with First Nations Health Authority, Fraser Health, Interior Health, Northern Health, and the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute for a provincial edition of Five Days in May.
  - [Indigenous Cultural Safety, Cultural Humility and Anti-Racism - A Journey to a Shared Practice Standard | Tuesday May 10, 15:00-16:00](#)

Five Days in May zoom event on **May 10th 2022**: Indigenous Cultural Safety, Cultural Humility and Anti-Racism – A Journey to a Shared Practice Standard.

- [Island Medicine: Updates, Skills, Simulation & Networking | June 10-11](#)
- [Human Safety Optimization Training | Thursday April 28, 07:00-09:00](#)
- [Rural Rounds: Child and Youth Mental Health | Thursday April 28, 08:00-09:00](#)
- [Department of Medicine Grand Rounds | Thursday April 28, 12:00-13:00](#)
- [BCCDC Grand Rounds | Tuesday May 3, 12:00-13:00](#)
- [Upcoming Cognitive Behavioural Therapy \(CBT\) Physician Wellness Group Training Courses | May 3rd & May 10th, 2022](#)
- [Infection Rounds | Wednesday May 4, 12:00-13:00](#)
- [Exploring the impact of hormones on kidney function | Friday May 6, 07:30-08:30](#)
- [BC ECHO for Post-COVID-19 Recovery – Session 10 | Tuesday May 10, 12:00-13:00](#)
- [Medical Leader Town Hall | Wednesday May 11, 07:30-08:00](#)
- [Infection Rounds | Wednesday May 11, 12:00-13:00](#)

All upcoming events found on the [Calendar of Events page](#). If you wish to add a Calendar Event to your personal Outlook Calendar, click this button at the top of the calendar pop-up



**The Medical Staff Bulletin will now be distributed every two weeks, instead of weekly.**

The next email bulletin will occur **May 11th** unless additional updates are necessary. The [medical staff website](#) is updated Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

If you have any questions, or wish to unsubscribe, please email

[MedStaffCommunications@islandhealth.ca](mailto:MedStaffCommunications@islandhealth.ca)



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