

Influenza Prevention Policy: Flu Clinics and Self-Reporting

The VP of Medicine, Dr. Ronald Chapman, has released a [memo](#) to all Northern Health physicians with information on the flu clinics in Northern Health and instructions on how to self-report. **As part of this year's policy, you are required to self-report your choice at medicalstaffhealth.phsa.ca, regardless of your decision.**

[Northeast flu clinics \(pdf\)](#)

[Northwest flu clinics \(pdf\)](#)

[Northern Interior flu clinics \(pdf\)](#)

For any questions or comments, please contact:

MedicalStaffFlu@northernhealth.ca

Save the Date!

- [Jasper Winter Retreat](#) – February 1-4, 2018, Jasper AB

Brown Bag Lunch Series

The [Brown Bag Lunch Series](#) are hosted by the Innovation and Development Commons and are available for anyone in Northern Health with an interest in health research to attend in person or via webcast/teleconference. The [2017-2018 schedule of topics and presenters](#) for the Brown Bag lunches is now available.

Introducing PHSA Correctional Health Services

As of October 1, 2017, the Provincial Health Services Authority assumed responsibility for health services provided in BC correctional centres. [Read more!](#)

The Importance of Keen Eyes and an Appreciation of Heritage

Dr. Dirk Kotze, a psychiatrist in the Peace Region, and his aunt, Ms. Sue Orchard, discovered a piece of fossilized bone in Tumbler Ridge this summer. The bone has now been examined by paleontologists and initial opinions is that the bone belongs to an ocean-dwelling reptile. [Read more about this exciting discovery!](#)

New BC MQI Website

The BC Medical Quality Initiative (BC MQI) has launched their newly improved [website](#). This website features helpful information for physicians on the provincial privileging dictionary refresh, which features the [dictionary review hub](#), and helpful [user guides](#) for AppCentral. Please visit the website to see what else it has to offer.

September/October Newsletters

- [Partners in Wellness](#)
- [Physician Education](#)
- [Community Vaccine Providers](#)

Conferences

- Find out more about [upcoming conferences!](#)



Support Available for Physician-Initiated Research in Northern BC

Do you have a research idea or data you would like to explore, but don't have time? If you would like support and assistance with developing a research proposal, obtaining ethics approval, collecting and analyzing your data there is now assistance available! Dr. David Snadden – Rural Doctors' UBC Chair in Rural Health – and experienced researchers at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) want to help facilitate the research ideas of northern physicians, from study design and data acquisition to knowledge translation. [More information!](#)

QI Seed Grant – Call for Applications

You are now able to submit your application for the next cycle of the 2017 Physician Quality Improvement Seed Grants. Funding opportunities are available to a maximum of \$5000 per quality improvement initiative. Physician Quality Improvement is now accepting applications until **October 31, 2017**. For [more information](#) on the application process, please see the physician website.

Announcement: NI Lakes/Omineca Medical Director

Northern Health is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Shannon Douglas to the position of NI Lakes/Omineca Medical Director effective November 20, 2017. Dr. William Osei will be stepping down from his position as NI Lakes/Omineca Medical Director and will be available until the end of December 2017 to transition responsibilities to Dr. Douglas. Read the rest of [Dr. Douglas' announcement](#) on the physician website.

Regional Adult Heart Failure Order Set

In June 2017, Northern Health released the [Regional Adult Heart Failure Order Set](#) that can be used in all tertiary care settings across Northern Health. The following forms can be ordered through Document Source (documentsource@northernhealth.ca or 250-649-7550): [NH Regional Adult Heart Failure Order Set](#), document # 10-111-5276; [NORTH Clinic Referral Form](#), document # 10-120-5005; [NH Heart Failure Patient Education Package](#), document # 21001.

Contact: NORTH Heart Function Clinic at 250-645-6490 or Dr. Mansour at 250-562-7014

New Antinuclear Antibody Testing Methodology

As of Tuesday, October 17, 2017, requests for antinuclear antibody (ANA) testing will be performed using a new method. A guideline for interpretation will be attached to all results. Please read the [memo](#) from Dr. Justin Lo, Pathologist, for more information on these changes.

Funding available to attend the IHI National Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care

The [IHI National Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care](#) is December 10-13 in Orlando, Florida. There is funding available for physicians to attend this conference through the Specialist Services Committee. For more information on how to apply for the scholarship, please contact physicianqi@northernhealth.ca.