Our story

The Specialist Services Committee (SSC) is a joint committee between Doctors of BC and the BC government, with regular representation from all health authorities. SSC was formed under the Physician Master Agreement to help the Doctors of BC, BC government and health authorities collaborate on the delivery of specialist services and support improvement of the specialist care system in BC.

In 2016, a group of physicians, Northern Health administration, Ministry of Health and Doctors of BC representatives developed a proposal to support specialists, as well as facility-based family physicians, in quality improvement across the Northern Health region. The proposal provided detail of our collaborative request to the Specialist Services Committee (SSC) and was approved. Physicians will now have access to various resources to support quality improvement, including our Physician Quality Improvement team hired over the past few months.

This newsletter will be distributed widely on a monthly basis to keep everyone updated on this collaborative initiative and provide updates on how this new team is supporting physician quality improvement.

What is the team up to?

UHNBC Coach—Shelley Movold
- Collecting data on the decision to incision time for emergency C-sections-Dr. Odulio.
- Working with MOREOB to organize an education session in relation to improving C-section rates - Dr. Mitchell-Foster and Dr. Odulio.
- ERAS (Enhanced Recovery After Surgery) Project - “in real time” data collection - Dr. Wankling.
- Consolidating data on COPD rates and services in Prince George.- Dr. Olsen and Dr. Smith.
- Working in collaboration with UPIC, Northern Health, as well as looking for opportunities to work with the PG Division of Family Practice.

North East Coach—Joyce Graham
- Collecting data and exploring the need for another Emergency physician in Fort St. John.
- Helping to understand the flow in the collection of out-patient blood work in Dawson Creek. Collaborating with physicians and the lab to ensure the requisition is collecting pertinent data.
- Meeting with Northern Health Medical Directors, Chief Operating Officer and Health Records Manager to establish working relationships.

North West Coach—Lee Cameron
- Supporting Maternal Health Clinic Project.
- Meeting with North West leaders to establish working relationships and presenting to NW Medical Advisory Committee to create awareness about the opportunities.
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- Working with the Pacific NW Divisions of Practice to share information on their “Pathways Project”.
- Team representative for the Provincial Regional Quality Improvement meeting.

Northern Interior Coach—Marna deSousa
- Meeting with NI leaders to establish working relationships and presenting to NI Rural Medical Advisory Committees to create awareness about the opportunities.
- Working with Northern Interior Rural Division Operations Manager to introduce our team and opportunities for collaboration.
- Developing the processes for physicians to apply for funding their quality improvement projects.
- Developing a learning plan for the new quality improvement team and identifying options for physicians that want to do more quality improvement training.

Coordinator – Jayleen Emery
- Coordinating with Medical Affairs Communications Advisor regarding the Physician Quality Improvement communication plan.
- Working with the Specialist Services Committee, Northern Health and other organizations to ensure the appropriate Quality Improvement tools and training are provided to physicians.
- Working with program leads to build working relationships and collaborate on how to get relevant information to physicians.

Outcomes Analyst – Farzana Amin
- Physicians identified data and information that would be of interest to them and Farzana is now working on data information packages for each site.
- Supporting individual data requests coming from the various coaches and working with Northern Health HIMS and Performance Planning Staff.

Evaluator – Tiegan Daniels
- Developing an evaluation framework for this initiative that aligns with current Doctors of BC and SSC strategic evaluations and the Northern Health Strategic Plan.
- Completed an evaluation of the former NCME to help understand how these new quality improvement resources can work more closely with physician education supports.

For more information regarding the SSC and Physician Quality Improvement please contact Jayleen Emery at physicianqi@northernhealth.ca

Physician Quality Improvement and Leadership Training Available

- Principles of Quality Improvement Workshops – upon request (3.5 credits)
- Quality Improvement: from Theory to Practice (3.5 credits)
- Northern Health Quality Conference May 31, 2017
- SSC Leadership Scholarship: $10,000 per year available to support tuition and travel to access external leadership training
- Co-Leadership workshops on Patient Safety Events (3.5 Credits)

Specialist Services Committee Physician Quality Improvement

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