



The SaferCare Initiative Update

January 31, 2025

Last two surgical sites have been deferred

After careful consideration, the SaferCare steering committee has made the difficult decision to defer the last two SurgCare Go Lives in Prince Rupert and Terrace due to current fiscal constraints.

Here is the revised sequence and timeline for the remaining SurgCare sites:

- Ksyen Hospital in Terrace will go live with SurgiNet clinical documentation with the facility's overall SaferCare Go Live in first half of 2026.
- Prince Rupert Regional Hospital will go live with SurgiNet clinical documentation in 2026 (after Terrace's SaferCare Go Live and before the Dawson Creek SaferCare Go Live in late 2027).

The SaferCare steering committee remains committed to the success of the SaferCare SurgCare initiative and supporting the impacted teams through this transition.

If you have questions, please reach out to the SaferCare Executive Sponsors:

Angela De Smit, Lisa Zetes-Zanatta, Dr. Ronald Chapman, or Jeff Hunter.

SaferCare system build: what's happening behind-the-scenes

As we prepare for a full SaferCare go live at the first two sites in Haida Gwaii in Fall 2025, critical behind-the-scenes system build work is taking place right now.

- NH uses Cerner (owned by Oracle Health) as our clinical information system to deliver acute care and manage hospital operations. The SaferCare team must first *design* and *build* the new SaferCare Cerner system before sites can go live. This includes new ways of working that includes designing and building digitally enabled workflows that clinicians and medical staff will use.
- Before the system can be built, decisions must be made for *how* the system should be built. A clinical information system is simply a reflection of a health authority's policies, processes and practices. This is where the SaferCare Interprofessional Practice Committee and the SaferCare Medical Staff Advisory Committee (MSAC) come in.
- Both committees use their collective clinical experience and perspectives to make decisions on how patient care practices, workflows, and processes can be more consistent and digitally enabled across the NH region. For example, the committees discussed how medication dose ranges should be built in the new SaferCare system.
- The committees follow principles such as: the vendor's established standards of build, other BC Health Authority design choices (e.g. CST project in the lower



mainland), and known NH standards (e.g. accreditation, policy, legal and regulatory standards). These principles guide many of the design choices and the sometimes-difficult decisions that must be made.

SaferCare system build milestone date change:

One of the key SaferCare system build testing dates has been delayed. Integration Testing 1 (IT1) has been moved from February 24-28 to the week of March 31, 2025.

What is IT1? It's a technical event for the main project build team. During this 4-day event the new SaferCare system is tested using real clinical scenarios to identify all problems and issues with the build and with any downstream systems. It can be thought of as a "tech rehearsal" before the dress rehearsal and the final show (or go live) takes place. **There is a user acceptance testing event in June where clinical users will be brought in to validate the build meets their needs.**

Staff spotlight: new and familiar faces on the SaferCare management team

Rae Schouwenburg – Regional Manager of EMR Adoption, SaferCare leadership



In September of 2024, Rae took on the role of Regional Manager EMR Adoption and Implementation at Northern Health.

Rae's passion for Change Management and proven track record in guiding health care teams through transitions is invaluable as we advance SaferCare and adopt and implement Electronic Medical Records (EMR) across the NH region.

Rae oversees the Training Team, ensuring all end users receive the necessary education and resources to use the EMR system efficiently. Her commitment to continuous learning and improvement is crucial for staying at the forefront of health care technology.

Andrea Beckett – Regional Manager of SaferCare



As of November 2024, Andrea is the new Regional Manager of SaferCare. In this role, she collaborates with the SaferCare project team and other partners to support various deliverables, including policy development, future state business processes, workflow and documentation standards, and EHR design and testing.

Prior to this role, Andrea worked on SaferCare as a Clinical Informatics Specialist. She also brings expertise from her previous roles as a patient care coordinator and including her work on the CHR project and various implementations like the Virtual Clinic and Covid Immunization clinics. Andrea's other experience includes



serving as a Patient Care Coordinator at UHNBC, and as a specialty nurse in the Burns, Trauma, and ICU departments at Vancouver General Hospital.

Vanessa Kinch – SaferCare Clinical Lead

In December 2024, Vanessa transitioned into the role of Clinical Lead for SaferCare. Kim Cook held this role for the past year in an interim capacity and has transitioned to an advisory role. Thank you, Kim, for all your help and support. Vanessa has been working alongside Kim for the past several months in her new role as the Director of Clinical Informatics at NH. Vanessa is well positioned to continue to support the new SaferCare structure and ensure that it fits within NH's service networks and operations management governance.



Vanessa has a registered nurse background, a master's degree in informatics, and over a decade of direct care experience as well as over a decade of informatics experience across NH.

Read more here:

[2024.18.12 Transition of SaferCare Clinical Lead.pdf](#)

Pictured: The SaferCare management team at NH Spring Leadership Forum in Prince George, May 2024. Second from the front left is Vanessa Kinch (white blouse with white sneakers) and to her right is Kim Cook.

Robin Saunders – SaferCare Project Director



Robin Saunders has taken on the new role of SaferCare Project Director to help provide experienced senior project leadership.

Robin is an experienced project leader with expertise in large digital health transformational projects, and many years ago, worked for NH as the Regional Director for the Health Link North project. With a background in hospital redevelopment, clinical system implementations, and regional collaborations across Canada, Robin provides strategic leadership and supports critical

decision-making. She also handles vendor escalation and works closely with key SaferCare committees, sponsors, and co-leads to advance the project.

Read more here: [2024.18.12 Introduction to SaferCare Project Director.pdf](#)