



The SaferCare Initiative Update

Summer 2024 edition (June, July, August)

In these brief updates, you'll find information about what the SaferCare team has been working on, how you can get involved, and other important details. For more initiative information, visit the [SaferCare page on MyNH](#).

SaferCare Part 1 update

The SaferCare project scope for Part 1 has undergone a thorough review by the SaferCare Steering Committee, identifying several constraints that make it necessary to revise scope. These changes mean that some of the project objective statements will be implemented in a limited capacity.

- The SaferCare project timeline now has the first go live planned for October 2025. This is later than originally anticipated and is due to external factors that cannot be adjusted.
- The SaferCare site sequence has been revised to four sites with a focus on implementing the digital technologies in the new hospital builds. The supported site sequence is as follows and may be subject to change if needed.
 - Haida Gwaii – Daajing Giids and Masset October 2025
 - Fort St James – Stuart Lake Hospital November 2025
 - Terrace – Mills Memorial Hospital Jan/Feb 2026
 - Dawson Creek – Late 2027 – Dependent on their move in timeline

Phase 1 Scope Changes

- Selected clinical services such as Perinatal/Maternity, Oncology, Dialysis and clinical services that receive referrals, will have limited electronic orders, workflows and documentation and will continue to have hybrid paper and electronic charts.
- Advancement of the HealthElife patient portal will be limited to what is available now.
- Integration of 3rd party systems will only focus on Pharmanet integration. PharmaNet integration is needed to support best possible medication history and medication reconciliation processes.

For more information on this update, see [FAQ SaferCare Part 1 key updates](#).

SurgCare: Fort St. John & Prince Rupert preparations underway

Two more sites are preparing to go live with digital clinical documentation in their perioperative departments:

- **Fort St. John – October 28, 2024** (subject to change): renovations are wrapping up this week with hardware install to follow, kickoff is Sept 11, staff training is scheduled for Sept 26-27.
- **Prince Rupert – early 2025**: substantial renovations completed, go live date TBD.



New video! The future of digital health care at NH

[This video](#) highlights digital health tools that are coming to NH. These tools were featured at the Digital Health and HealthSpaces showcase at NH Leadership Forum in May 2024.

Digital health & HealthSpaces showcase photo gallery available

Did your team participate in the showcase event at Leadership Forum in May? Staff and team photos of the event are available: [Digital Health & HealthSpaces Showcase photos.](#)



New HealthElife feature: Children aged 11 and younger can be signed up

Parents and caregivers of children aged 11 and younger can now request access to their minor’s HealthElife portal account. This gives the parent or caregiver direct access to the child’s health record and some health services such as booking a lab appointment. Parents and caregivers can sign up at northernhealth.ca/healthelife.



Posters are available to order through Documentsource:

- 10-300-6555 (Grandparent poster)
- 10-300-6556 (Parent poster)

HealthElife is Northern Health’s patient portal that gives patients the power to view and interact with their digital health information.



SaferCare staff feature: Dana Cole

Dana Cole is the Regional Director of Pharmacy Services for NH and Co-Lead for the change management areas of SaferCare. She got involved with SaferCare back in 2015 from a medication safety and quality perspective. Following an Accreditation Canada survey visit that year, the CEO at the time approached Dana to help address the issue of medication safety.



One goal of the SaferCare initiative is to introduce systems and processes to improve patient safety, such as safeguards for administering medication.

“Currently, our clinical system makes it difficult for people to do the right thing. We don’t have enough safeguards in our system. We need to make it *easier* to do the right thing and *harder* to do the wrong thing,” says Dana.

This means technology will be implemented to improve medication prescribing, dispensing

and administration. Eventually this will include closed loop bar-coded medication administration, where everything is scanned and there’s a built-in safety feature for nurses to make sure that they have the right patient at the right time with the right drug. Computerized provider order entry (CPOE) is also coming on board and will bring big benefits from a medication safety perspective.

“Some of the biggest safety features will be computerized provider order entry. Prescribers will have the ability to use digital decision support tools that essentially provide information at their fingertips, helping to guide them, not make decisions for them. But guide them in the right direction and help make better, higher quality clinical decisions.”

Future SaferCare updates: share your ideas!

If you have information you’d like to include in future SaferCare initiative updates, please reach out to Haylee Seiter-Gill, the Communications and Marketing Lead for SaferCare, at Haylee.Seiter-Gill@northernhealth.ca.