



FAMILY PRACTICE RENEWAL PROGRAM

RE-Boot FPN Newsletter

March 2021



Spring 2020, Trinity Bay

Chair's Message

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Spring has arrived and with it the promise of renewal and a fresh start. At RE-Boot we are ready to go!

We will soon complete our strategic planning process and thank you for your ideas and feedback provided through member surveys, our AGM, and e-mail messages. We are excited about what the future holds and while the list is long, we know that together, along with our creative members and supportive partners, we can accomplish great things.

We hope you'll find helpful information and encouragement in this newsletter. As always, please reach out with any ideas or questions that the FPN can tackle on your behalf.

Dr. Jackie Elliott, Chair
chair@rebootfpn.com

Less Paperwork Working Group

We have been pleased to hear from members that the example letters are having a positive impact and effectively opening lines of communication between family physicians and your consultant colleagues.

In addition to the three example letters previously shared, attached is one more example letter in response to sick note requests. We hope these will continue to reduce the burden of paperwork within your day.

- [Re-referral request letter](#) (UPDATED)
- [Dentist re anticoagulant letter](#)
- [Request to inform patients of specialist appointment letter](#)
- [Sick note requests](#) (NEW)

NEW Orientation Working Group – members needed!

We know it is very challenging for new family physicians, or physicians new to the community, to get all the information they need to do their job effectively (e.g., who does what and where; RHA contacts, processes for acute care facilities etc.) and we want to solve that.

This new group will work with physicians, Eastern Health, and our communities to identify ways we can improve this information sharing, create regional resources, and strengthen networking, all with the goal of attracting and keeping family physicians. The first meeting will be held in April. If you are interested in joining, please contact Deborah at dwearn@rebootfpn.com.

EMR Tips and Tricks Sessions

Stay tuned for an upcoming list of short (30-45 minute) tips and tricks session on optimizing your EMR time. Sessions will be led by your peers with the content chosen by family physicians. Additionally, we are exploring hosting sessions for your staff. Please email Deborah at dwearn@rebootfpn.com if you have a topic or area we should focus on or are interested in hosting (or co-hosting) a particular topic.

MOA Facebook Group

Your peers have created an informal network for MOAs to learn EMR tips and tricks. Here is the link to the NL MOA EMR Facebook group:

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1056916001443877>

Improving How You Find Eastern Health Communications, E-mails and Notices

We have been actively working with Eastern Health to improve how physicians can find the latest and most up-to-date notices applicable to family practice physicians. In February both the RE-Boot and Endeavor Boards provided feedback to Eastern Health on a new web-based family physician-specific page. Our goal is to centralize, prioritize and ease the burden of emails you receive. Note you will still receive important and timely updates via the NLMA while we look at triggers and other methods to push the right content to you at the right times. Stay tuned for more information in future member updates.

NLMA Guide to Non-Insured Services

In response to recent questions about what is appropriate to charge for non-insured services, we are sharing this NLMA resource. Your FPN colleagues believe that these ranges are fair and recommend using this guide to establish a rate that reflects the value of the services you offer.

- <http://www.nlma.nl.ca/FileManager/Publications/Guides/nlma-physicians-guide-to-non-insured-service-june-2018.pdf>

Carbonear General Hospital Endoscopy Central Intake Memo

- [Eastern Health Memo—Endoscopy Central Intake—Carbonear General Hospital](#)

Investigating Primary Care Physicians' Knowledge of Basic Dental Care

We are two fourth year medical students at MUN looking for family doctors in NL to complete a research survey about dental health in primary care. The purpose of the research is to assess the level of comfort and knowledge primary care practitioners have in providing basic dental care. Participation in this research study is completely voluntary and responses will be anonymous. The survey will take between 15-20 minutes to complete. Your opinion is important and will hopefully contribute to improving medical education in this important field.

The survey is available [here](#). If you have questions, please direct them to **Myfanwy Price** (myfanwy.price@mun.ca) or **Jessa Vokey** (j.vokey@mun.ca).

Wait Times

DI Wait times	Burin	Carbonear	Clareville	
Ultrasound	112	50	40	calendar days
CT	21	52	39	
Mammography	10	43	60	
Bone Density	7	220	73	
ECHO	203	135	245	

Burin specialist wait times	
Specialty	Next available
Internal Medicine	31-Mar
Pediatrician	01-Apr
Surgeon	31-Mar
Obstetrician	14-Apr
Psychiatrist	urgent referrals only after discussion with referring physician

Project ECHO NL: Opioid Use Disorder Session 10

Session 10: Special Populations: Youth and Young Adults (Advanced)

Tuesday, April 13, 2021 (12:00 – 1:00 pm NDT)

Speaker: Dr. Sharon Cirone, MD, FCFPC, CAC(AM) (Family Physician and Addictions Consultant, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Team, St. Joseph's Health Centre, Toronto).

To register for Session 10, please email Chelsea.Hynes@easternhealth.ca by **Friday, April 9**.

This 1 credit-per-hour Group Learning program has been certified by the College of Family Physicians of Canada and the Newfoundland and Labrador chapter for up to 10 Mainpro+ credits (1.0 Mainpro+ Certified Group Learning credit per session), also considered an acceptable accredited learning activity by the Newfoundland and Labrador Pharmacy Board.

- [Project ECHO NL Session 10 flyer](#)

More information about **Project ECHO NL: Opioid Use Disorder**, including frequently asked questions, can be found online [here](#).

NL College of Family Physicians (NL CFP) Family Physician Profile

If you have not yet done so, or your practice has recently changed, NL CFP asks that you kindly complete this survey by clicking on the link below:

- **Survey:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SH5TX7H>
- **Excerpt from NL CFP *Our Family Doctor News*—Issue 1, March 2021:** [NL Family Physician Profile](#)

Vaccination for Physicians Providing Care in Congregate Living Facilities

If you provide care to residents in any Nursing Homes, Personal Care Homes, Community Care Homes, and Assisted Living Facilities and you have **NOT** yet received a COVID-19 vaccine and wish to receive one, please advise Melvin Layden, Regional Director of Long-Term Care at Eastern Health by emailing Melvin.Layden@easternhealth.ca. Your name will be referred to the Vaccine Task Force for immediate Phase One prioritization. This includes private community-based physicians.

Vaccines

Thank you for reaching out with your questions and concerns related to the vaccine rollout and prioritization. We also appreciate that the NLMA has formally asked Eastern Health for information and considerations for physicians regarding this issue.

The FPN has been working with Eastern Health to address concerns and questions around the vaccine and the roll-out process. Family physicians can expect to receive a URL to register this week (March 29) for the vaccine, if they wish. This URL will be sent via NLMA to ensure no MD is missed. Vaccination will begin April 5.

In addition, as you have seen via NLMA, there will be the launch of a portal for physicians who wish to take part in vaccine clinics as ‘vaccinators.’

Please note that information related to COVID-19 vaccines is updated regularly so we always recommend you try to find the most up-to-date information. Centralizing where information is kept remains a high priority for the FPN in its work with partner organizations.

Government of NL COVID-19 Vaccine Resources:

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/vaccine/files/NL-COVID19-Immunization-Plan-1.pdf>

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/vaccine/prioritygroups/>

NLMA COVID-19 Webpage

<http://www.nlma.nl.ca/Page/COVID19>

Peer Facebook Group Link (resources tools/COVID)

Please contact Dr. Roxanne Cooper at docroxcooper@hotmail.com (moderator) to receive a link to join this group and have access to a peer-generated shared resource document.

FPRP Notices

For recent notices from the FPRP, please click the following links:

- **March 18, 2021** - [Invitation to Register—Suboxone Treatment of Addiction Advanced Training Program](#)
- **March 29, 2021**—[Invitation to Register—Frailty 2](#)

Questions?

questions@rebootfpn.com This new email address has been we created with the intent to appropriately direct family physician's questions and receive timely answers specific to Eastern Health services and COVID related issues. The NLMA will send answers through their distribution list to ensure all physicians have access. Additionally, if you don't know where to ask a question, send it our way and we will do our best to get it to the right person or organization.

Your RE-Boot FPN team

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Staff

Ms. Deborah Wearn, Executive Director

For more information about the RE-Boot Family Practice Network, please contact RE-Boot FPN Executive Director Deborah Wearn at dwearn@rebootfpn.com or by calling (709) 728-5742.