

November 2, 2020

Clinical and Administrative Leaders
Primary and Community Health Care Services
Province of Alberta

Dear Colleagues:

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the recent developments on the Community Information Integration and Central Patient Attachment Registry (CII/CPAR) projects over the past few months.

To start with, I am pleased to inform you that Microquest, TELUS and QHR Electronic Medical Record (EMR) systems all fully support the sharing of physician office visit details, specialist consult reports and patient panels through CII/CPAR. The limited production rollout for QHR Accuro has been concluded and I would like to thank the early adopters whose participation assisted in identifying and resolving the issues expected with any new technology.

Participants using Microquest and TELUS EMRs are also receiving eNotifications in their EMR informing them when one of their CPAR-paneled patients has a hospital admission or discharge, visits an emergency department or completes day surgery. This is a huge step forward for continuity of care, providing an opportunity for coordinated patient follow-up.

In September, CPAR received panel submissions from 250 participating physicians. During that same time, an average of 2,700 hospital eNotifications were sent to clinic EMRs each week, informing participating primary providers of their patients' status and enabling smoother transitions of care.

In the summer, the Health Quality Council of Alberta published a formative evaluation of CII/CPAR. This is their second report and the findings have been used to improve the participation experience of physicians, clinic team members and Primary Care Networks (PCNs) as well as capture user benefits. A summary is available on the CII/CPAR website (https://actt.albertadoctors.org/file/CII-CPAR_HQCA_Formative_Evaluation_July2020.pdf). The report is consistent with physicians reporting benefits for themselves and their patients. To learn more about physician experiences, visit the CII/CPAR website: <https://actt.albertadoctors.org/PMH/panel-continuity/CII-CPAR/Pages/Physician%20Experiences.aspx>. We call CII/CPAR "technology for integration and continuity" and it is proving to do just what it was designed to do. It is a key enabler for relational, informational and management continuity.

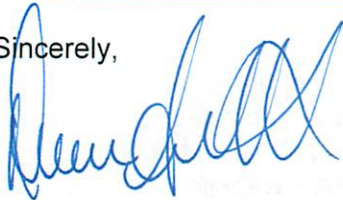
Attached is the latest progress status report for PCNs. I'm pleased to see that support is picking up for the initiative. I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that CII/CPAR is foundational for the continuity of patient care expected in a Patient's Medical Home (PMH) and a priority for the province. PMH Readiness has been added as a new indicator in Schedule B of PCN Grant Agreements and is expected to be reported on in this fiscal year. For family physicians who are practicing proactive panel-based care, CII/CPAR is an opportunity to take that work to the next level through enhanced patient information-sharing and continuity of care. Tangible benefits from CII/CPAR are being realized by current physician participants and their patients.

Looking forward, there are some important developments and milestones ahead. QHR will have Accuro ready to receive eNotifications in 2021. Another important advancement for continuity of care is that the name of the primary provider from CPAR will display in the patient's record in Alberta Netcare in June 2021. Discussions are also underway with EMR vendors to enable primary providers to submit a patient summary both to Alberta Netcare and to the patient through MyHealth Record. These developments will further enable patient involvement in their care, another element that is central to PMH in an integrated health system.

In response to delays encountered with our vendor partners and the exceptional circumstances of COVID-19, the Alberta Health, Alberta Health Services, Alberta Medical Association, PCN and members of the Continuity Supports Rollout Steering Committee agreed to a one-time revision of the timeline for adoption of CII/CPAR. The revised goal is that 80% of community physicians will adopt CII/CPAR by May 2023. The scale and spread of PMH and health home initiatives at the clinic, PCN and zone level, including CII/CPAR, are priorities for the Provincial and Zone PCN Committees in the term beginning in September 2020.

The eHealth landscape is changing in Alberta with the systems including Alberta Netcare Portal, CII/CPAR as well as Connect Care being rolled-out in AHS; they are all playing a part in integration and continuity for Albertans. It is about getting the right information to the right provider at the right time. For more information on the program please contact your Accelerating Change Transformation Team consultant at 1.866.505.3302 or continuity@albertadoctors.org or visit <http://actt.albertadoctors.org/PMH/panel-continuity/CII-CPAR>.

Sincerely,



Dean Screpnek, CPA, CMA, CLGM
Interim Chair, Continuity Supports Rollout Steering Committee
Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Health Workforce Planning and Accountability
Alberta Health