



OCTOBER 12,
2022

A background image of a forest with trees in autumn colors (yellow, orange, red) and evergreens. A white rectangular box is centered over the image, containing the title text.

MEDICAL STAFF BULLETIN

Public Health:





- [A message from Dr. Réka Gustafson, Chief Medical Health Officer](#)
The work towards recovery in our personal and professional lives and in the health care system continues as Island Health prepares for another respiratory season. Island Health anticipates that influenza will return in force after two seasons of low influenza activity.
- [Fall Respiratory Season | Provincial Update](#)
Health Minister Adrian Dix and Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry held a provincial briefing on the upcoming respiratory season and surge planning. [PHO Briefingslides](#).
- [Approval of more Bivalent vaccines](#)
Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, and Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s provincial health officer, have released the following joint statement on the approval of the Pfizer-BioNTech bivalent COVID-19 vaccine.
- [Discontinuing Additional Precautions Related to COVID-19](#)
This BCCDC guidance document updated the duration of additional precautions for patients with COVID-19 exposure from 14 day to 10 days.
- [Primary Care Providers Influenza Vaccination - MHO letter](#)
MHO letter providing information for primary care providers on health authority clinics providing both COVID-19 and influenza vaccination. Primary Care

Providers can start placing influenza vaccine orders the week of October 24th with expected distribution the week of October 31st.

- [Facilities Influenza and Covid-19 Vaccination - MHO newsletter](#)

MHO newsletter providing information for facility-based providers about the 2022-2023 Influenza and COVID-19 Vaccinations.

- [Update to Covid-19 testing guidance and PCR test for health care workers](#)

Provincial COVID-19 testing guidance has been updated. PCR testing is no longer recommended for symptomatic health care workers, first responders, staff and residents in congregate settings unless they meet other criteria for testing.

- [BC Coroners Service report shows toxic drug supply has claimed 1,468 in the first 8 months of 2022](#)

Preliminary reporting released by the BC Coroners Service shows that the toxic drug supply claimed the lives of at least 169 British Columbians in August 2022, bringing the total number of lives lost in the calendar year to 1,468.

- [Illicit Drug Toxicity Island Health Update](#)

Deaths caused by illicit toxic drugs continue to increase across the province and in the Island Health region. Dr. Réka Gustafson provides data on the illicit drug toxicity within the Island Health region.

- [Monkeypox Vaccine Client Information Sheet](#)

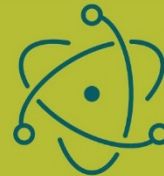
This BCCDC guidance document includes information such as: What is the monkeypox vaccine? Who should get the vaccine? What are the possible reactions after the vaccine? And more.

Spotlight:



- [Urgent and primary care centre opened in Victoria](#)
A new Urgent and Primary Care Centre (UPCC) opened at the Gorge Road Hospital on Monday, Sept. 19, 2022.
- [Infection Prevention and Control \(IPAC\) clarification](#)
Clarification from the last medical staff bulletin on new IPAC services - A microbiologist 24/7 on-call service has always been available. Island Health is fortunate to now have 2-3 Infection Control Practitioners also working on the weekends and holidays as a new service at Island Health. These new Infection Control Practitioners will cover both acute and LTC facilities.
- [Doctors of BC Video: Reaching out to Colleagues in Distress](#)
Topics include: Why is it hard for physicians to reach out for help when needed, or to accept it when offered? Why is it hard to help colleagues? And steps to take when reaching out to help a colleague.
- [Doctors of BC Annual Health Authority Engagement Survey closes October 12th](#)
The annual Doctors of BC annual survey closes October 12th. Email invitations have been distributed to all members of Doctors of BC from surveys@doctorsofbc.ca.
- [Medication Safety Alert | lidocaine injection](#)
Please use extreme caution when selecting SWFI (Supply of sterile water for injection) products. Warning: Look-Alike Product Lidocaine 1% and 2% Polyamps.
- [Island Health observes National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
On September 30th, Island Health honoured the children who never returned home and the survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. The commemoration of this tragic and painful history and of the ongoing impacts of colonialism is a vital part of reconciliation on Vancouver Island and beyond.

EHR News:



- [Relationship Declarations in the EHR - It is your responsibility](#)
When opening an electronic health record (EHR) you are accessing confidential patient information. It is mandatory that you establish the relationship (reason for accessing) you have to the patient record. It is essential to select the correct relationship. What you declare informs the permanent legal record, which is audited and accessible by the patient.

Upcoming Events and Education Opportunities:



- [Saegis Communicating Unexpected Outcomes \(CUO\) training for Clinicians](#)
- [“Unpacking the blind spots: Gender identity and gender bias” Dr. Neila Miled | Psychiatry Grand Rounds | Tuesday October 25, 12:00-13:00](#)
- [Giving and Receiving Effective Feedback | Tuesday October 25, 17:30-18:30](#)
- [Climate Emergency: Taking Action on Planetary Health | Saturday October 29, 07:45-16:15](#)
- [“Resuscitative Thoracotomy” Dr. Dennis Kim | Trauma Rounds | Tuesday November 1, 12:00-13:00](#)
- [The Opioid Crisis - BC's Public Health Emergency | Wednesday November 2, 12:00-13:00](#)

[Calendar of Events page](#)

If you wish to add a Calendar Event to your personal Outlook Calendar, click this button at the top of the calendar pop-up



All upcoming events found on the calendar of events page

Newsletters:



- [Long-Term Care Program Newsletter | September 2022](#)
- [MHSU Update Newsletter | September 2022](#)
- [CME Offerings Newsletter | October 2022](#)
- [Primary Care Update Newsletter | October 2022](#)

The next email bulletin will occur **November 16th**. The [medical staff website](#) is updated Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

If you have any questions, or wish to unsubscribe, please email

MedStaffCommunications@islandhealth.ca

