

March 2025

Medical Staff Bulletin



IHealth

May 3, 2025—New Date for IHealth Activation of CPOE at Cowichan District Hospital

The new date for activation of computerized provider order entry (CPOE) at Cowichan District Hospital (CDH) is Saturday May 3, 2025. Readiness and learning activities that were paused will restart the first week of April.

Overall readiness at CDH, including medical staff, is fully on-track. More than 96% of medical staff have completed required e-Learning modules and classroom education and will continue preparing with in-person Workflow Review Sessions.

Island Health continues to advance its plan to implement the advanced electronic health record across the region. We are committed to keeping medical staff informed and engaged as details for subsequent sites are known. If you have questions or comments, please email cmioihealthoffice@islandhealth.ca.

More from the IHealth team: for an update about current MyHealth enrolment numbers in the region, click [HERE](#).

HAMAC Highlights

The Health Authority Medical Advisory Committee (HAMAC) meets on the second Thursday of every month. Full meeting minutes can be accessed on the Intranet [HERE](#).

In addition to regular business during HAMAC's February meeting, the Committee discussed:

- 2024 - 2025, 2025 - 2026 Fiscal Context
- Medical Leadership Strategy Update
- Draft Indigenous-specific Anti-Racism Policy
- Pharmacist Lab Ordering Initiative
- Medication Reconciliation
- Departmental Reporting—Department of Pediatrics

SAVE THE DATE! Medical Staff Forum, Thursday April 17- 7:30am - 8:30am



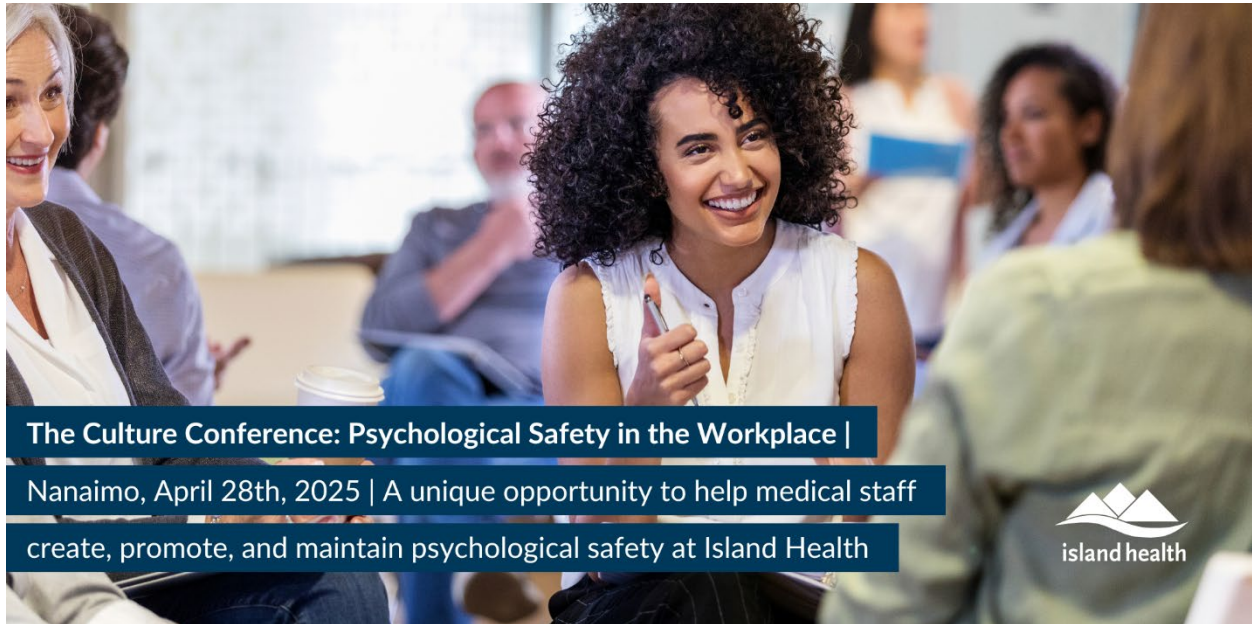
Medical staff are invited to join Dr. Ben Williams, Vice President Medicine, Quality, Research and Chief Medical Officer, and Dr. Michelle Weizel, Associate Vice President Medicine and Deputy Chief Medical Officer, and guest speakers, for the first Medical Staff Forum of 2025. Topics for discussion include **regional MRP staffing, IHealth, Public Health, and recruitment updates**. Please note that the Forum will be hosted on Microsoft Teams. **An invite for this virtual event will be circulated to all medical staff shortly.**

To submit your questions or thoughts in advance, please click on [this Slido link](#). **The link will be accessible until Tuesday 15 April.** Help us prioritize leadership questions by 'liking' those that resonate with you. Easy access Slido code: #MSForum0425

To nominate a peer for recognition during the Forum, please send an email to MedStaffCommunications@islandhealth.ca noting:

- Your name
- Name of nominee
- A brief explanation (2-3) sentences outlining the reason for nomination

Island Health no longer supports Zoom as a meeting platform. All virtual meetings are now hosted on Microsoft Teams. Your Forum invitation will include dial in numbers, however; for the best user experience, please login to Teams using your Island Health login.



Connect with peers, discover and apply insights, and unite as medical staff to transform workplace culture. Guests include keynote speaker and Obstetrician-Gynecologist, Dr. Don Wilson—a member of the Heiltsuk Nation, with ancestral ties to the Haisla and Kitasoo Xai'xais Nations. Dr. Wilson's professional interests include Indigenous health, international women's health, LGBTQ+ health, and metabolic health with a focus on lifestyle and nutrition.

WHEN: Monday 28 April, 9am to 3.45pm **WHERE:** Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 101 Gordon Street, Nanaimo **TO REGISTER:** Click [HERE](#) to access Eventbrite registration

The Culture Conference is open to **all medical leaders, future medical leaders, and medical staff**. This event is accredited for MOC and Mainpro+ credits, and has been co-funded by Doctors of BC, Physician Health & Safety. Breakfast and lunch are provided.

For more information about the event, including shuttle bus information from CRH, CVH, RJH, and VGH, please see the [medical staff website](#) or email MedStaffDevelopment@islandhealth.ca.

Partnerships in FOCUS

This spring, the **Emergency Department at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital (NRGH)** will **welcome physician assistants (PAs) from the Department of National Defence**. The PAs will work in the ED in a clinical skills maintenance capacity, while under the direct supervision of an emergency physician. The PAs will be at NRGH for two week periods, while not actively deployed.

Military PAs have worked within Island Health sites, but not since 2017. This partnership represents an important revitalization of the relationship between Island Health and the Department of National Defence. With thanks to Drs. Trachter, Bolden, Olver and Oosthuizen for their efforts in welcoming the PAs to NRGH.

The **Police Medic Training Program** is a collaboration between Island Health and VicPD, providing advanced first aid and medical skills training to a cohort of police officer medics in the south Island. Training is similar to that of SAR Techs and Military PAs, with an annual minimum training hours requirement, advanced medical courses, and OR/ED experience and observation.

In the absence of paramedics, the role of a police medic is to augment the safety of police officers, and civilians, in a hostile environment. Dr. Mark Vu, Medical Director with VicPD, notes that the Program functions as a link in the continuum of care: “It’s a small link, but an important one, and BC is leading nationally when it comes to Tactical Emergency Medical Support. I’m grateful to Island Health leadership for supporting the Program and it’s a huge honour to be part of it”.

2024 Annual Rural Physician Confirmation Survey

If you are a physician practicing in a rural community, you may qualify for rural incentives. The Rural Physician Count is the foundation for all rural incentives and is used to determine rural physician benefits and the community's overall Rural Retention Program score. It is important to have accurate physician information so funding can be appropriately allocated.

The 2024 Annual Rural Physician Confirmation Survey is now live—click [HERE](#) to access it. **Please complete the survey IN FULL by April 1, 2025. Time commitment is approximately 10**

minutes. Please note that failure to submit this completed survey may disrupt your eligibility for 2025-26 Rural Benefits. If you need assistance completing the survey, or have further questions, please contact RuralPrograms@islandhealth.ca.

Welcome NEW Medical Leaders

- **Dr. Nimrod Levy**, Medical Lead, Surgery, Cowichan District Hospital
- **Dr. Paul Sawchuk**, Site Medical Lead, Health Point Care Clinic
- **Dr. Angela Babúk**, Medical Director, Critical Care
- **Dr. Ramm Hering**, Division Head, Addition Medicine



NEW Cloud-based PSLS

On April 1st, a new cloud-based Patient Safety learning System (PSLS) will be deployed across Island Health, replacing the current web-based system. For detailed information about this change, please click [HERE](#).

Handlers in need of support with closing open records, can contact psls@islandhealth.ca for assistance.



Mental Health Act Monthly Webinar

The Mental Health Act Quality Assurance and Practice Support team invite you a monthly webinar, every second Thursday of the month, 1.30pm – 2.15pm. Sessions are designed to provide updates, clarify key points, and address questions related to the Mental Health Act (MHA). To register and access resources, please visit the [MHA pages on the Intranet](#), or email MHASupport@islandhealth.ca.



Medical Staff Communication, Education & Development | Medical and Academic Affairs
MedStaffCommunications@islandhealth.ca

If you no longer work at Island Health and wish to be removed from our Medical Staff email database, please respond to this email with UNSUB in the email body. **Please do not alter the email subject in your reply.**
