

Comox Valley Low Intensity Rehabilitation Unit (LIRU) Opening

WHAT IS HAPPENING

At Comox Valley Hospital ten (10) beds on unit 4A will convert to a Low Intensity Rehabilitation Unit (LIRU). Eligible patients from Comox Valley, Campbell River, Port Hardy and Port McNeill Hospitals will have access to this program **starting January 16th, 2023**.

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW

The LIRU will serve patients who require low intensity rehabilitation, including patients who may have had a recent illness or injury and are not ready to return home from hospital due to weakness and deconditioning. Through participation in this program, individuals will benefit from working with a team to restore their function with the intention of preventing a long length of stay and/or admission to long term care. Participants need to be medically and emotionally ready to participate in their low intensity rehabilitation program. An expected length of stay on a LIRU is from two (2) to twelve (12) weeks.

Physiatry consultation will be available for certain patients, in person and virtually, as required, provided by Dr. Ross Davidson.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO

There are three new supporting documents for you to be aware of:

- 1) [Low Intensity Rehabilitation Unit Patient Criteria for Acceptance](#) (working draft) to learn about what type of patients will be referred to the LIRU
- 2) [Referring Unit Physician Roles and Responsibilities](#) (working draft)
- 3) [Receiving Unit \(LIRU\) Physician Roles and Responsibilities](#) (working draft)

Please review these documents and forward any questions or suggestions for improvement to one of the contacts listed below.

CONTACTS

For questions related to the new Comox Valley ten (10) bed LIRU, please contact:

Tara.Pollock@islandhealth.ca, phone: (250) 331-5900 ext. 65530; North Island LIRU Working Group co-chair
or
Ross.Davidson@islandhealth.ca, Physiatrist and Medical Director, Restorative Health, Quality