

GPSC Vision

The GPSC is enabling access to quality primary health care that effectively meets the needs of patients and populations in BC.

Patient Medical Home

- The patient medical home (PMH) positions family practices at the centre of an integrated system of primary and community care.
- The PMH is a family practice through which:
 - Family physicians are linked with supportive networks of colleagues and teams of health professionals.
 - Family practices are better aligned with other parts of the health care system, with simplified connections to health authority and community services.

Why use the PMH model?

- The PMH model is a proven way to enable providers to work together more effectively to create a clear path to care. This will:
 - *For patients:* provide better access to timely and coordinated care across health care practitioners and locations, starting at the doctor's office.
 - *For family doctors:* strengthen supports and connections to care for and manage patients, especially those with complex needs (e.g., frail elderly, mental health).

What will improve for family doctors?

- Family doctors know their patients are getting the right care, in the right place at the right time.
- Responsibility for supporting patients with complex health needs does not rest on one physician's shoulders.
- Pressures are eased, so doctors can achieve better work-life balance and look out for their own wellness.
- Family doctors have healthy, supportive work environments that encourage retention and recruitment.

How will it help the health care system?

- The patient medical home model contributes to the bigger, provincial picture that aims to:
 - Meet the demands and pressures of a growing, aging population and a changing physician workforce.
 - Maximize resources, time, and capacity for patients across all providers.
 - Build stable and affordable health care that meets the needs of patients into the future.

The foundation

- Through the visioning consultations, many family doctors indicated they are open to new approaches to practising so they can provide the best care possible for patients while achieving a healthy work environment.
- Doctors and divisions have laid the foundation for the patient medical home by establishing working relationships with health authorities and community partners, and leading primary care improvements through the PSP, divisions of family practice, A GP for Me, and numerous local initiatives.
- Health authorities are also working to streamline and coordinate community-based services to be more accessible and understandable for patients and providers alike.

Moving forward

- The GPSC recognizes that some family physicians and communities are further along in this work than others and is here to listen, advise, and provide support along the way.
- The committee and the provincial office is working with divisions to identify needs and determine what supports will look like and how best to provide them.

Look for regular updates at: www.gpsc.bc.ca