

Highland PCN Newsletter - Thursday

April 5, 2018

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HPCN Updates

Health Improvement Program (HIP) – Program Updates

Please refer to the latest memorandum from Dr. Tammy McKnight and Micheline Nimmock regarding HIP program updates and referral forms.

HIP Thursday, April 5, 2018 Memorandum, [click here](#)

Online HIP Referral Form, [click here](#)

Print HIP Referral Form, [click here](#)

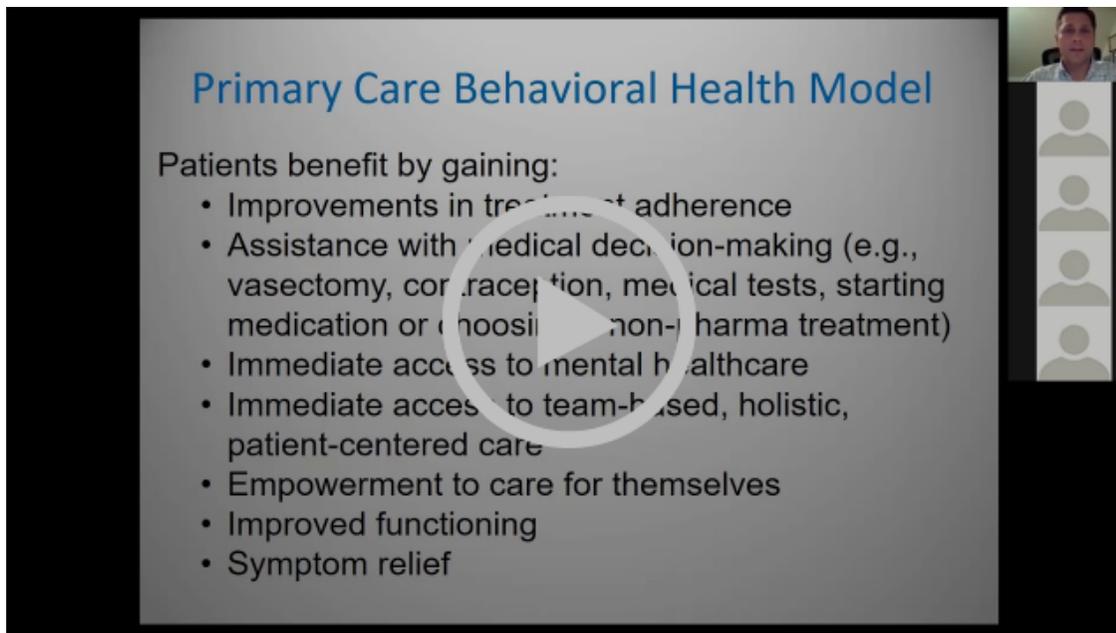
Updated! Shorter Videos from the Behavioural Health Interactive Question and Answer Session

On February 15th the Highland PCN held a behavioural health interactive question and answer session with Dr. Kent Corso, PsyD, BCBA-D. This session provided great examples of how to best utilize your registered nurse and social worker to support patient care.

Due to the length of the original presentation, we have broken it down into three different sections. The first video will include an overview of the Behavioural Health Model, the second video will focus on introducing the model to your patients and the third video will teach you what to expect from your healthcare provider.

During these videos, there are a few questions and answers from physicians and Highland PCN team members who attended the original session. We encourage you to take the time to watch all three videos.

We will be sharing the videos with you over the next few newsletters. If you wish to view this shorter section of Dr. Corso's presentation that focused on an overview of the Behavioural Health Model [click here](#) to view it.



Primary Care Behavioral Health Model

Patients benefit by gaining:

- Improvements in treatment adherence
- Assistance with medical decision-making (e.g., vasectomy, contraception, medical tests, starting medication or choosing non-pharma treatment)
- Immediate access to mental healthcare
- Immediate access to team-based, holistic, patient-centered care
- Empowerment to care for themselves
- Improved functioning
- Symptom relief

You can also find a copy of his slides [here](#).

Specialist LINK

Specialist LINK is a telephone advice line that family doctors can use to contact a specialist for advice about a patient in real time. Within 60 minutes, specialists will return the family doctor's call.

Psychiatry has become the latest addition to the fast-growing Specialist LINK. Physicians who are looking for clinical advice on therapeutics, management or diagnostics, as well as standards of care and practice guidelines are all invited to call the service.

[Read More](#)

Respiratory Shared Care Project

Can having a Respirologist visit your practice improve the health care experience for patients, family physicians, and specialists? A task group is now looking for family

physicians and respiratory specialists to trial this Shared Care Model in a few primary care clinics.

If you have any questions or would like to participate, [click here](#).

Request for Clinic Volunteers

We have a request from the Airdrie Mental Health Task Force for some data. This group is trying to determine the current level of services, identify any gaps and develop recommendations for mental health; they have asked for an estimate of the number of people who access primary care service for mental health concerns or who have a mental health component to their visit.

Please contact Julia Arndt, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Evaluation at julia.arndt@hpcn.ca for more information or if you're willing to participate.

We appreciate your help in this request.

Questions / Concerns from Members

In an effort to help address any questions or concerns that some of our member physicians have, we would like to start a new series where we answer your questions.

Are there any plans for the PCN to bring back BHCs? How about even in the Central Clinic? What about Up To Date?

As most HPCN members and staff know, we have implemented a new model for mental health support for our PCN. To recap, we ended our contract with AHS for their BHCs and hired several new Social Workers who are now directly employed by our PCN. In addition we provided full BHC training to all of our Social Workers and Registered Nurses who work in your Medical Homes.

Also, the PCN paid for Up to Date in our 2013 / 2016 Business Plan. We were able to do so, because we had access to additional funds, which are no longer available. The Board made the decision not to continue this support as the funds were no longer available to do so.

There are no plans to change our service delivery model or add new expenses in

this fiscal year as we are tied to our current Business Plan and approved Business Plan amendments. We are, however, just starting our business planning process, for our 2019 / 2021 business plan. The Board will meet in May and determine priorities for the next 3 years. They are committed to a strong consultation process about the key elements of the Business Plan. Items such as psychology support (in Medical Homes or centrally) and Up to Date could be under consideration for the new Business Plan.

As always, please email your great ideas for future PCN service to Dr. McNight or Micheline Nimmock, for consideration by the Board. Please note that we are not anticipating significant increases in budget, therefore any new any costs would mean that a current program and service or expense would need to be decreased/changed/cancelled. The Board has the difficult task of considering many elements in making decisions about future programs for the PCN.

To make this an ongoing series we would like to invite any PCN members to forward questions that you have to communication@hpcn.ca.

Our Question For You

In an effort to connect more with our physicians we would like to take a turn and ask you a question.

How would you like to be consulted in the business planning process?

Please send your comments/ideas to: communications@hpcn.ca

Additional Resources

Upcoming Mental Health Workshops in Airdrie

The Canadian Mental Health Association - Calgary Region will be hosting Finding Your Balance, a caregiver course, in the Highland PCN boardroom starting Thursday, June 7th, 2018 until Thursday, July 26th 2018. This 8-week course will

focus on the needs of those living with or caring for someone, who are often themselves left unattended to.

Patients can register either online [here](#), or by calling (403) 297-1402.

The Main Event

Friday, June 8, 2018 (Formerly the Annual Family Medicine Showcase and Mackid Symposium)

The Department of Family Medicine is combining two major events, the Annual Family Medicine Showcase and the Mackid Symposium. The new event is now called "The Main Event"

This event will consist of an afternoon of continuing medical education to family physicians, physician wellness seminar and in the evening an opportunity for attendees to talk with AHS programs, services and additional support.

For more information on this event [click here](#).

Educational Opportunities

Family Physicians and CancerControl: Strengthening Linkages Workshop

Alberta Health Services CancerControl is pleased to offer the eighth annual oncology workshop for family physicians to be held in-person and connected via videoconference at Alberta's six referring cancer centres on **Saturday, April 14, 2018**.

This one-day workshop will provide family physicians with the opportunity to build links between oncology and primary care while improving the integration of care by promoting knowledge exchange and relationship building.

[Read More](#)

Connect With Us

Feedback regarding our Thursday newsletter can be directed to our communications team at communication@hpcn.ca.



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