



Locums Available

Special points of interest:

- Locums Available
- GP Specialties
- Geriatric Services
- Billing Information
- Rapid Access to Specialist Consults
- Updated Psychiatrist Listing
- Paid Ops
- Sharps Disposal
- Case Management Pilot
- Medical Supplies Preferred Member Pricing

In follow up to the Division's half-day event in April and member interest in locum coverage for the NS, two Board members and the Coordinator attended a UBC Practice Skills event in June.

The Division sponsored a round table discussion about locums on the NS, conducted a locum survey at the event, and registered 10 physicians interested in NS locum opportunities.

Access locum contact information at www.divisionsbc.ca/northshore login, click on My Forums| NS Bulletin Board. Additionally, if you wish to advertise for a locum opportunity on the site and/or if you've misplaced your login ID/password, contact our Coordinator Lkeenan@divisionsbc.ca.



GP Specialties

Information collected during the Division's physician survey last summer indicated a number of members with areas of special interest and who accept patient referrals. A current listing has been compiled and is available on our website (see how to access in above article).

The list includes contact information, notes about referrals, the length of the waitlist and whether private pay fees apply.

Geriatric Medicine and Services on the NS

At the May 25/11 Dine and Learn, Dr. Deviani Maher, Geriatrician and Phil Lawrence, Director of VCH - NS Seniors Services presented information about geriatric medicine and senior services on the NS.

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation, referral form and a one-page summary of the presentation can be found under the "Resources" tab of our website.

Dr. Maher and Mr. Lawrence reviewed issues raised during the

event dialogue with Dr. Dick Lupton, e.g., exam space at facilities, communication between Acute and Community and between facilities and GP offices. Mr. Lawrence will be following up on these.

GP Mental Health Planning Fee G14043 \$100.00

- Payable upon the development and documentation of pt's Mental Health Plan for care over rest of calendar year for pts who reside in the community (home or assisted living, excluding care facilities).
- Requires 30 minute face-to-face visit. If longer, bill office visit (up to 50 min) or counseling visit if meets preamble criteria (over 50 min) in addition.
- Billable once per calendar year (not necessary to be on anniversary of previous year – do when clinically indicated).

Board Members

Dean Brown, Chair
Genevieve Lauzon, Vice Chair
Lisa Gaede, Treasurer
Jim Hayward
Juanita Anderson
Christine Florakas
Francis Vala

Coordinator

Leslie Keenan
Lkeenan@divisionsbc.ca
T: 604-765-3607

GP Billing Information Session

Dr. Joanne Larsen presented GPSC billing information and billing updates to 70 GPs and MOAs during a dinner meeting on June 23, 2011 at LGH. Visit our website for a copy of the General Billing and Obstetrics Billing Power Points, handouts, and Q/A raised during the evening. In support of GP practices, GPs were compensated for MOA time spent at the session.

Billing Pearls

- The prevention billing code, **14066** is worth \$50 and can be billed 100 times in 2011 (once per patient only). Need to use specific diagnostic codes 783, 785 or 786.
- **14043** is a time dependent billing (you must spend 30 minutes to bill it). If you spend 50 minutes, you can bill a 100 in addition. If you spend more than 50 minutes you can bill a **0120** in addition to the **14043**.

Website Updates

There is a Bulletin Board now available on our website (member only access through login ID and clicking on "My Forums"). Space is available for members to post, e.g., equipment for sale, practice for sale, etc. The space also allows us to notify members of updates and minimize email communication. A few recent additions:

- ◆ "Help Wanted" where paid opportunities for GPs are posted, e.g., participation in focus groups
- ◆ Updated list of NS Psychiatrists' availability
- ◆ Rapid access for GPs to Specialist consults through a single telephone line 604-696-2131 (a one-page summary included in this newsletter)
- ◆ Public health alerts are issued as needed by the Medical Health Officer through the periodic distribution of the Community Medicine Newsletter. Issues are now posted on our website under the "Resources" tab. If members wish to be added to the email distribution list for the newsletter, please contact the MHO's assistant, Roya Dolling. T: 604.983.6701 Email: Roya.Dolling@vch.ca

Social Event

Member interest was expressed at the April 16th half-day event for a Division social/sporting event. Suggestions include: hike; golf tournament; bowling; Christmas party. To measure the level of interest in an event, we ask that you contact Lkeenan@divisionsbc.ca to indicate your preference or suggestions for an alternate activity.

Division News Bytes

- ◇ The Division recently learned, from the BC Ministry of Environment and Transport Canada, that all sharps disposal vendors require a license to transport hazardous/infectious waste, e.g., used needles, and weight exemptions do not apply to this waste. The Division received confirmation of licensure from two out of five vendors in BC. GPs are advised to follow up with their sharps vendors as the Division is not pursuing a sharps preferred purchase program.
- ◇ An Integrated Health Network pilot test case is underway where a NS VCH Case Manager is assigned to a GP to cover his patients who require case management. The GP and CM are exploring various methods of communication, e.g., weekly meetings; CM calling directly from a patient's home, etc. to determine the effectiveness of different approaches. Currently Case Managers are assigned by geographic district. More on this to come.
- ◇ If you and/or your colleagues have an idea you would like to explore regarding changes to a part of the health care system to make it more sustainable, Division funding is available to compensate you for your time. To find out more, please contact a Board member or the Division Coordinator.

High Needs Working Group GP Survey

The High Needs Working Group has developed a GP Survey to assess the knowledge/need for access to community resources. The survey has been emailed to all members. Your participation in this brief survey will help inform the working group on next steps.

Medical Supplies - Preferred Member Pricing

As noted in a May/11 email to members, the NS Division engaged in a process to obtain preferred pricing for medical supplies for our members. The Stevens Company was the successful proponent. To obtain the preferential prices (even if you are an existing Stevens client), please contact **Tobin McCallum** who will update your account. For those of you who may be new to Stevens, please feel free to contact Tobin to set up a new account. His contact information is provided below.

Office: 604.634.3088 Ext 307
Cell: 604-961-2442
Email: tobin.mccallum@stevens.ca
Website: www.stevens.ca

Enjoy your summer vacation!

