



THE PRESCRIPTION PAD

TRANSITION/TRANSFER TO ADULT CARE

Transitioning Patients from Community Pediatricians into Adult Care: Launch of Tools and Resources

— By Dr. Aven Poynter, President, BC Pediatric Society

Thanks for your patience and participation over the past year in the BC Pediatric Society project *Transitioning Patients from Community Pediatricians into Adult Care*. We're pleased to announce that new tools and resources are now available for use.



Successful transition from paediatric-centred to adult-oriented healthcare positively influences health outcomes for youth with chronic illness¹.

Province-wide consultations were a key part of the project, and BCPS listened closely to what community pediatricians and other physicians told us about transition during those consultations. Recognizing that transferring information is a critical aspect of transition, our project ended up focusing on developing tools and resources in these areas:

- Transfer of patient information
- Information about family physicians and adult specialists accepting transitioning patients
- Information about community resources for community pediatricians to share with patients/families
- Mental health guidelines for community pediatrician reference

We recently completed a pilot of the tools among community pediatricians and their colleagues, which confirmed that the tools improve both the transfer of information as well as communications between community pediatricians and members of the adult care team. You'll find more background on the project [here](#).

The new tools are now available on the [BCPS website](#). Click on the following links to start using them in your own practice:

- [BCPS Medical Transfer Summary \(MTS\)](#)
print & fillable form or guide to dictation (EMR access in process)
- [Locating a Family Physician or Adult Specialist for a Transferring Patient](#)
 - *Family Physicians* – list of family physician attachment mechanisms by Divisions of Family Practice
 - *Adult Specialists* – list of Divisions of Family Practice that have Pathways set up to include specialists
- [Community Resources Supporting Transition](#)
list by Health Authority & category
- [Transition Guidelines for Youth Experiencing Mental Health Disorders](#)

Note: The BC Pediatric Society/Section of Pediatrics has applied to Tariff/MSP for a new fee item to cover community pediatricians transitioning complex patients into adult care. As of this writing, we are waiting to hear whether this fee item will be accepted. For information about what fee codes can be used now for both pediatricians and family physicians, [click here](#).

Transitioning Patients from Community Pediatricians into Adult Care is a project supported by the Specialist Services Committee (SSC) a partnership of Doctors of BC and the BC government.

We welcome your feedback:

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¹Prestidge et al. *Pediatr Nephrol* (2012) 27:295–302