

## FPSC PRACTICE SUPPORTS: HDC & PSP WORKING TOGETHER IN FERNIE BC



The Family Practice Services Committee (FPSC) works on behalf of physicians to strengthen full-service family practice and patient care in BC, representing a partnership of the Doctors of BC and the Government of BC. The FPSC provides [practice supports](#) for family physicians, and these are often complementary, providing greater benefit together than on their own. The following article highlights how two of the FPSC practice support programs, the Health Data Coalition (HDC) and the Practice Support Program (PSP), are working together with physicians, assisting in the implementation of practice analysis and improvement.

HDC has developed the HDC Discover platform that aggregates data from seven different Electronic Medical Record solutions (EMRs). HDC Discover enables family physicians and nurse practitioners to review and self-assess their clinical practice over time and in context with their peers. This process commonly results in the discovery of practice insights and motivates action to improve clinic processes and patient care.

PSP offers services for family physicians to optimize their practice, enhance their use of health technology, and more effectively manage their patient panels. Each organization contributes to and supports tactical activities within multiple phases of a standard [Plan-Do-Study-Act \(PDSA\) Improvement cycle](#).

When HDC Clinical Services Manager, David Chan, met with the Sparling East Medical Centre (SEMC) physicians in Fernie BC, Dr. Michael Stuckey commented that he is a proponent of preventative medicine but has had difficulty finding time to incorporate it in his daily schedule.

**“...I spend the entirety of my days responding to episodic emergencies and I wish I had more time to identify which of my patients would benefit from preventative medical attention before their condition worsens.” - Dr. Stuckey.**

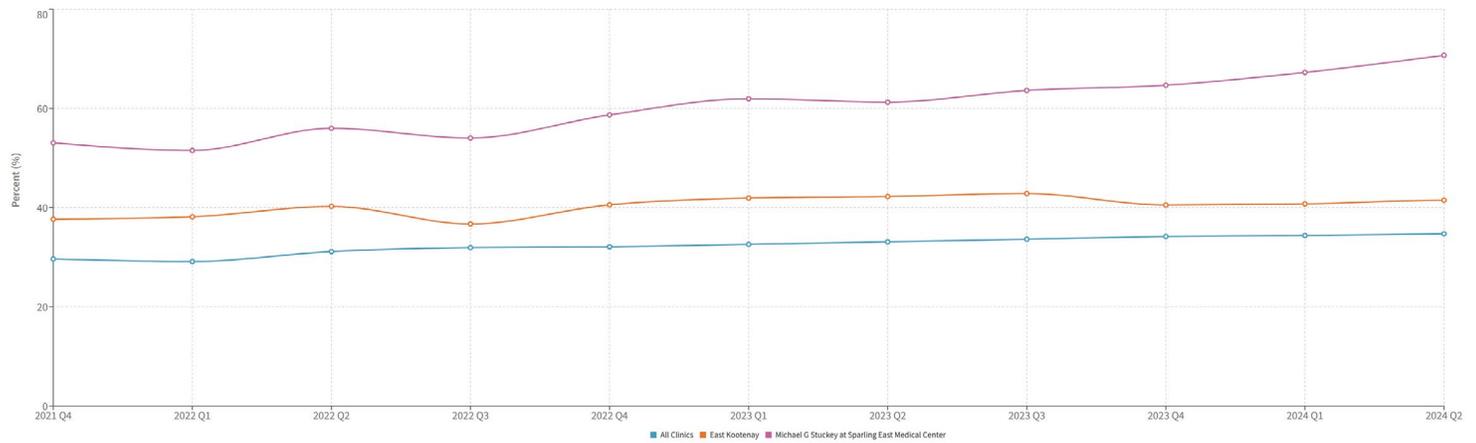
While this data is contained within EMRs, it can be challenging to visualize the data in a format that allows for interpretation. **This is where the collective coordination between the HDC and PSP can help ease the burden.**

## HOW TO FIND THE MISSING 40%?

When Dr. Stuckey logged into his HDC Discover account and reviewed his Colorectal Cancer Screening Measure (see image below), he noted that he had successfully screened 64% of his patients.

### Colorectal cancer screening

The percentage of active patients, 50 to 74 years old, who have had a hemocult test recorded in the EMR in the past 2 years or a colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy recorded in the EMR in the past 10 years.



This percentage is higher than both the East Kootenay Division aggregate (43%) and All Clinics aggregate (33%), but to Dr. Stuckey's credit, he wanted to review the list of eligible patients who have not been screened for colorectal cancer. He had followed up with David asking for help to identify the missing 40% of eligible patients for colorectal cancer screening.

David contacted PSP's Practice Improvement Coach, Kevin Wilson, and determined that they were well positioned to help Dr. Stuckey. Kevin and his PSP colleague, Allie Barr, are familiar with the WELL Profile EMR in use at the SEMC and assisted in the creation of customized reports.

"Allie generated at least 7 reports to identify those patients who were at high risk of colon cancer and did not have an intervention on file to address that. Dr. Stuckey reviewed the lists and recalled the patients to discuss screening options with them," reports Kevin Wilson.

"The baseline measurement was 180 patients in high-risk categories who had not had colon cancer screening. He was able to recall all these patients within 2-3 months."

This is an excellent example of how the FPSC's practice support programs are working together to strengthen family practices and patient care. For Dr. Stuckey, monitoring his goal to increase his colorectal cancer screening rate equates to improved preventative care for his patients in Fernie.

Interested in viewing [Colorectal Cancer Screening](#) rates within HDC Discover and identifying the eligible patients for screening? Contact an HDC Clinical Services Manager at [info@hdcbc.ca](mailto:info@hdcbc.ca) to learn more.

Interested in learning more about what PSP offers? Check out [fpscbc.ca/psp](https://fpscbc.ca/psp) or email PSP directly at [psp@doctorsofbc.ca](mailto:psp@doctorsofbc.ca).

### Contact Us

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