

Signs of progress in 2017 reappointments

Online applications in AppCentral have rolled out for the first time at the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) and for the second year at Providence, Vancouver Coastal (VCH) and Interior Health (IHA). Early reports from physicians and medical leaders say that some are finding the process smoother this time around.

Key improvements for 2017 include:

- Elimination of attachment requirements at VCH, PHSA, IHA and Providence.
- A single combined application for physicians appointed to both VCH and Providence.
- Pre-populated applications for practitioners using AppCentral for the second year.

All agree that continued system improvements are a step in the right direction. BC MQI is currently working with the vendor to refine the privileging function in CACTUS and anticipates an interface upgrade by 2018.

Security and privacy in the C&P system

As with any online system, users naturally have questions about how their data is protected in the provincial credentialing and privileging (C&P) system. Medical staff can always refer to bcmqi.ca to read the CACTUS terms of use and a summary of security measures in the BC instance.

Provincial C&P data is stored in BC

In accordance with FOIPPA laws and best practices, all system data is securely stored in BC. System data does not “traverse” the United States or float in the cloud. Use and management of the data is strictly controlled by a security model that restricts access to specific individuals, whose access is monitored and audited for compliance.

Internet use and personal account security

The AppCentral module of CACTUS may be accessed by internet from any location. To protect information travelling by web, the C&P system uses Transport Layer Security (TLS) encryption for all transmitted data.

To ensure personal data remains protected, practitioners should also:

- Avoid transmitting confidential data on less secure networks. Cloud-based services or public wireless networks are not recommended.
- Use complicated passwords that are difficult to guess.
- Practice safe storage—keep passwords confidential and away from prying eyes. Act quickly if your password is compromised. Reset it on AppCentral or contact medical affairs for assistance.

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The *Update* reports on activities underway to strengthen BC's medical quality framework.



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Dictionary refresh

Reviews in progress

Six panels are in advanced stages of review and consultation: general surgery, anesthesiology, diagnostic imaging and nuclear medicine, and three pathology dictionaries. In January, a subcommittee was also convened to define and set qualifications for molecular pathology, cytogenetics and molecular genetics. The subcommittee recommendations have since been adopted in the general, anatomical and hematological pathology dictionaries.

Next up

Privileging dictionary review panels planned for March and April include:

- Midwifery
- Nurse Practitioners
- Family Medicine/General Practice
- Family Medicine– Enhanced Surgical Skills
- Family Medicine– Anesthesiology

Learn more at bcmqi.ca

Website update

BC MQI is changing our web look soon. We hope you'll like the new navigation and layout we've designed to make things easier to find.

Questions or feedback about AppCentral or the provincial privileging dictionaries should be directed to the practitioner's Medical Administration Office.

The overarching goal of the BC Medical Quality Initiative is to improve medical practice safeguards and support the BC MQI ongoing delivery of high quality medical care.