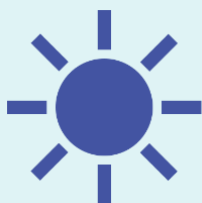# THE PHC CERNER LEARNER

From the desk of Dr. Janet Simons **Your by physicians, for physicians source for CST Cerner information at PHC**

HERE COMES THE SUN

It's starting to feel like summer – and I realise it's been a while since the last Edition of the *Learner.* That's on me – who knew that it would get busy parenting a toddler while holding down multiple jobs!?!

But it's also a sign that the speed of updates and news affecting Powerchart specifically have slowed. Find out why on **page 2** where I 'spill the tea' on what's happening with the CST project.

One important bit of news is that **Richmond Hospital,** the last major acute care site, is going live **June 15, 2024**. If you have interest in helping out with that go-live (always lots of fun!) please reach out to me.

~*Janet*

QUICK VIDEO REFERENCES

Need a refresh or extra help with some med rec basics? We now have a series of short instructional med rec videos.

Available here:
 https://vimeo.com/showcase/10703655

Topics include:
- Medication Reconciliation Overview
- Admission and Transfer Med Rec
- Printing Prescriptions
- Outpatient Medication Reconciliation

Check them out and share with new staff and trainees!

MRI REQUISITIONS

To clarify what paperwork you need to order an MRI – it depends on where you send the MRI order. This is done in the Order Entry:

Order for future visit: ( ) Yes ( ) No

Scheduling Location: [   ] ▾

| (None) |
| BC Cancer Vancouver - BCC VA Med Imaging |
| BC Children's - BCH Med Imaging |
| Lions Gate - LGH Med Imaging |
| St. Paul's - SPH Med Imaging |
| UBC Hospital - UBC Med Imaging |
| Vancouver General - VGH Med Imaging |
| Print to Paper |

If you send the order to one of the listed VPP locations, you bypass the MRI central intake and go straight to that imaging department's queue. For these locations, only the Cerner order is required. The screening/safety form is done by the MI clerks when they call the patient for the appointment.

When you 'Print to Paper' in order to send an order to a non-VPP Cerner site, the screening/safety form is still required to accompany the order, meaning the paper form will need to be printed out, filled, and faxed. Unfortunately we don't have control over the workflows and requirements of the external MI departments.

To make it a bit more clear what is required, and to alleviate the need to keep on hand the forms from each external Health Authourity, an improvement has been recently approved. There will soon be multiple 'Print to Paper' options, one for each external HA, so that the system can automatically print off the required paper form for you. Next time you order an MRI you can look for additional options in the drop-down menu:

Print to Paper w/ Fraser Screen
Print to Paper w/ Interior Screen
Print to Paper w/ Northern Screen
Print to Paper w/ Van Island Screen

SO WHAT'S THE TEA ON CST?

There's lots of stuff going on in the Informatics world behind the scenes, so I thought I'd share some details and also hopefully clarify some terms you might be hearing.

CST, which stands for 'Clinical Systems Transformation' was the big buzzword for many years. CST refers to the Project, i.e. the teams, structures and budget alloted for actually getting all the hospitals and clinics 'live' on Cerner. You may have heard this being referred to as 'CST Cerner' in order to distinguish it from other hospital systems which also use Cerner products. This is, of course, because Cerner is the name of the manufacturer of the software which is not specific to Vancouver or BC.
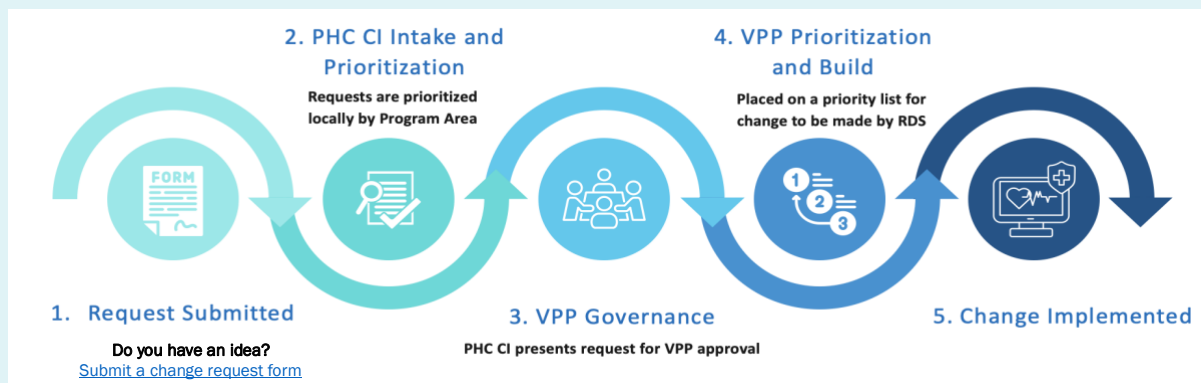
The CST Project is a joint venture of the three major Health Authourities in the Vancouver area, namely VCH, PHC, and PHSA. For that reason you may also hear about 'VPP' which stands for **V**CH, **P**HC, **P**HSA. Each of these Health Authorities also has it's own local Clinical Informatics (CI) team. That's the team bringing you this newsletter (your local PHC CI team) and fielding your day-to-day issues and inquires.

So, what's the tea? Well, CST is coming to an end – that is, the Project is just about over, with most of the major sites and clinics active and live on Cerner. That, and the Project is also just about out of money. **CST will soon cease to exist**.

Up until now, the Project was still doing most of the maintenance, updates, and improvements that we needed to keep Cerner running and functional. With that entity going away, we obviously still need these functions. Enter RDS, Regional Digital Solutions, a group within IMITS which has the responsibility for the maintenance of VPP Cerner. Both RDS and IMITS now sit within Digital Health, which reports to PHSA but serves all of VPP.

Notice I said *VPP* Cerner now instead of *CST* Cerner? As CST is soon no longer, there is a transition in both terminology and responsibility. Right now, we are in the process of transitioning from the CST Project over to RDS and it's not always a smooth ride, as tends to be true of large changes.

One thing that's not changing is our local CI team. We will continue to be your local point of contact for any issues related to the technology that supports your practice. Our role is to understand your needs and try to help find solutions within the current system. If no solutions can be found and a system change is needed, our team will investigate potential changes and work to shepherd these requests through the process. See below for a visual of this process.

2. PHC CI Intake and Prioritization
Requests are prioritized locally by Program Area

4. VPP Prioritization and Build
Placed on a priority list for change to be made by RDS

1. Request Submitted
Do you have an idea?
Submit a change request form

3. VPP Governance
PHC CI presents request for VPP approval

5. Change Implemented

Note that the 'build' (aka actually making the system changes) which was previously done by CST is now handled by RDS. Anything we ask for must await RDS resources to be built – and right now, they are working hard to develop their staff and capacity to do this work. This is why you may have noticed that not many big changes are happening right now.

Hope that if you read all that, you have a bit better understanding of some of the vocabulary and process that goes on to make changes and updates to VPP Cerner.

INFORMATICS VOCAB

CST – Clinical Systems Transformation Project, the group responsible for getting sites live on Cerner

Cerner – The manufacturer of the software product. Most commonly when people say 'Cerner' they are referring to the *Powerchart* application

VPP – VCH, PHSA, and PHC, the group of health authorities collectively undergoing the CST Project and using the same version of Cerner products

CI – Clinical Informatics, your local point of contact for support and advice on using all sorts of technology solutions in your practice

RDS – Regional Digital Solutions, the group taking over the work of building and maintaining Cerner and related products for VPP