

Interprofessional Team Engagement Series

The goals of the monthly [Interprofessional Team \(IPT\)](#) Engagement Series are to learn, connect and share questions and experiences to help IPT Clinicians and Primary Care Providers to optimize how they work together in the Primary Care Networks (PCNs) to support their patients. A fictional case study and breakout rooms are used to discuss how different IPT clinicians would support a patient as a team, working closely with Primary Care Providers.



SESSION 10: Collaborating to Support Patients with PWD Applications – April 10, 2024

How would you support this patient?

SOCIAL WORK (SW)

Step 1: Social Work to Review Eligibility Criteria

- Prove you meet financial eligibility to receive assistance

Step 2: Apply for Income Assistance

- This is the first administrative step to accessing PWD
- Completed using a program called My Self Serve

Step 3: Persons with Disability Application (PWD)

- Once they have successfully completed the general income assistance application, and are deemed financially eligible, they can now move forward with a PWD application
- Three parts: Applicant Information; Medical Report; Assessor Report

Step 4: Next Step

- Approval of eligibility generally takes 6-10 weeks
- PCN SWs will internal refer client if needed or direct them to other community resources

REGISTERED DIETITIAN (RD)

For This Client:

- Full nutritional assessment
- Create SMART Goal(s)
- Basics of a gluten free diet
- Budget-friendly gluten free food ideas
- Offer helpful websites like Celiac.ca
- Application for PWD "Diet Supplement": Celiac disease (\$65 per month)

PWD "Health Supplements"

3 options, each fulfills a unique need for nutritional support:

- Diet Supplement
- Short Term Nutritional Supplement
- Monthly Nutritional Supplement

Each type of request can be completed by either a Medical Practitioner, Nurse Practitioner, or Registered Dietitian.

Clients are only eligible to receive one type of supplement at a time.

Who attended the session?



47 Providers

(FPs, NPs, RNs)



13 IPT Clinicians

(CCs, SWs, RDs)

FICTIONAL CASE STUDY

Patient Information:

- 37-year-old transgender client (they/them)

Past Medical History:

- History of trauma
- Social anxiety
- PTSD
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Chronic back pain
- Celiac disease (new diagnosis)

Provider refers patient to SW for:

- Assistance with navigating financial resources
- PWD

Provider also refers to RD for:

- New celiac disease

Presenting Issues:

- Financial stress—working part-time (\$500/month) partner helping to cover costs
- Client has suffered from generalized anxiety disorder & major depressive disorder- symptoms increasing & interfering with ability to work full time
- Recently diagnosed with celiac disease
- Isolated/lack of family support

Social Factors:

- Has a partner but not living in common law relationship
- Lives alone
- Lives in Vancouver

Did you miss the event? [Click Here](#) for a recording of the case study

SESSION FEEDBACK – 35 Respondents

100%

Would refer a patient with similar circumstances

97.1%

would recommend the sessions to colleagues

100%

would attend another session

"The case scenarios and the multidisciplinary approach. I got a better understanding of the each of the interprofessional team member's role in supporting and completion of the PWD form."

-Primary Care Provider

"Very useful information and presented in a succinct and clear way."

-Primary Care Provider

NEXT SESSION: May 8th, 2024

A Multidisciplinary Approach to Supporting Patients with IBS

A Collaborative Approach to Supporting Patients with PWD Applications

April 10th, 2024

Chat Q&A

Q: Is there a minimum number of previous visits in order to qualify to support an application?

A: No, there is no minimum number of previous visits. You will likely need to see the patient a number of times to be able to complete section 2 of the form.

Q: What is the difference between the PWD and PPMB form?

A: There are a number of differences. You can find out more info on askanadvocate.ca.

Q: Does the Primary Care Provider fill out both the assessor and medical report?

A: Just the medical report if you have referred to the PCN Social Worker. The Social Worker will fill out the assessor report.

Q: If you don't refer to the PCN Social Worker, then can the Primary Care Provider complete both portions?

A: You can complete both. However, the applications may seem stronger with engagement from two providers when possible.

Q: Is there information that we can provide to patients on the rules and what to expect?

A: This form can be helpful for patients: <https://disabilityalliancebc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/hs2.pdf>

You can also direct clients to askanadvocate.ca which has great information comparing benefits and includes a chat function for clients to ask questions.

Q: I ask the patient to fill out Section 1 first before I do my part. This gives me some idea of the challenges in their daily life. Is this appropriate?

A: Very appropriate. Client can complete Section 1, Primary Care Provider reviews and completes Section 2, then Social Worker completes Section 3. This process may not be appropriate for all clients. Some with heavy mental health issues can find it triggering. Social Work can assist with the process.

Q: If a single person making \$1500.00/month gets PWD designation how much total income does the person expect after approval?

A: they can earn a total of \$16,440 in the year. If they earn more then that it will begin to cut into their monthly PWD income at the end of the year.

Q: How long are the PWD benefits for? Does it get assessed yearly?

A: PWD benefits don't get assessed yearly and are generally considered lifetime. However, clients can be audited from the Ministry e.g. to ensure they still meet the financial requirements. Once a client turns 65, the Ministry will try to transition folks to the federal disability benefits under CPPD for financial support; but they will still be eligible for medical supplies/health benefits under PWD.

Interprofessional Team Engagement Series

A Collaborative Approach to Supporting Patients with PWD Applications

Chat Q&A continued

Q: What's the difference between the 3 different options of health supplements?

	Diet Supplement	Short Term Nutritional Supplement	Monthly Nutritional Supplement
Type of need	Extra cost related to special diet needs	Provides specific nutritional supplement to boost caloric intake, supplement diet	Extra funds for nutritional items/ micronutrient supplements to address malnutrition, danger to life
Eligibility	Must have specific medical condition or need from the approved list	Recovering from surgery, severe injury, serious disease or side effects of medical treatment.	Has chronic, progressive deterioration of health and nutritional status due to severe medical condition.
What's provided	Ranges from \$15-\$80 per month, most are \$50-\$65.	Supplement product specified in request	Up to \$180 for nutritional items, \$45 for vitamins/minerals
Duration	Up to 2 years, can be re-submitted	Up to 3 months	As long as needed, regularly reviewed by Ministry
Format of application	Letter or prescription pad	Letter (includes Supplement prescription)	Form from Ministry

Other Helpful Resources

- [A Physician's Guide to the Disability Tax Credit](#) – Access RDSP Resource
- [A Nurse Practitioner's Guide to the Disability Tax Credit](#) – Access RDSP Resource
- [Disability Tax Credit Help Sheet](#) – Disability Alliance BC
- [Disability Related Information 2023](#) – Canada Revenue Agency