

# Cancer Care Program moving to new patient medical record system

## FAQs – for patients

<b>General FAQs</b>	<b>Why is the Cancer Care Program moving to a new system?</b>	<p>Until now, cancer care teams have used many different computer systems. None of them talked to each other. Many processes are or were paper-based. This was not the best way to document records. The new system has two parts: an electronic medical record system called ARIA and an online patient app.</p> <p>Over the last 18 months, Cancer Care teams have been working behind the scenes to gradually introduce these new systems. It will take another few months before ARIA and the Cancer Care Patient App are fully introduced.</p> <p>This fall, cancer care providers will move from paper records to electronic patient records in ARIA.</p>
	<b>When will it happen?</b>	<p>The move from paper to electronic patient records will happen on different dates at clinics throughout the province.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Halifax, October 7</li> <li>○ All remaining sites, November 12</li> </ul>

<p><b>What will this mean for patients?</b></p>	<p>The new system means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cancer care teams will have easy and quick access to their patients' cancer health information anywhere in Nova Scotia that patients receive their cancer care.</li> <li>○ Improved safety for cancer patients, less chance for errors, improved communication and efficiency between health care providers.</li> </ul>
<p><b>I've heard that cancer care teams are not seeing as many patients as they used to? Does this mean I'm going to have to wait longer to see someone?</b></p>	<p>Patient appointments may take a little longer at first as cancer care providers learn new processes. During the first couple of weeks when teams are using the new system, some areas may schedule fewer patients some days. As always, patients will be prioritized by their clinical needs. Patients with an urgent health concern will receive care when they need it.</p>
<p><b>I've been a patient here for some time. Will all my paper records be transferred to the new system?</b></p>	<p>Your cancer care team will continue to have access to all your paper records. If you receive your care in Halifax, your records will be kept in ARIA from October 7 onward. If you receive your care in Sydney or at one of the community sites, your records will be kept in ARIA from November 12 onward.</p>
<p><b>How are you protecting the privacy of my electronic patient record?</b></p>	<p>The privacy of patient information is very important. This new system follows all Nova Scotia privacy laws.</p>
<p><b>What if I have a concern?</b></p>	<p>If you have any concerns or issues about your care, please talk with your cancer care team first. If they are unable to address your concern, please contact Patient Relations at 1-844-884-4177.</p>