

Hemodialysis Site Consolidation

The number of hemodialysis patients on Prince Edward Island has grown by 75 percent in the past three years. With increasing rates of diabetes and heart disease – two risk factors for kidney failure – demand for hemodialysis will continue to increase.

Currently 80 clients receive hemodialysis treatment on the Island (*as of May 9, 2012*).

- Summerside (at Prince County Hospital) – 24 clients
- Charlottetown (at Beach Grove Home) – 37 clients
- Souris (at Souris Hospital) – 11 clients
- Alberton (at Western Hospital) – 8 clients

The new hemodialysis unit at PCH has the potential to serve up to 54 people, more than twice the previous Summerside facility's capacity of 24.

A hemodialysis unit will be part of the new Ambulatory Care Center at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and has the potential to serve up to 84 people – a 133 per cent increase from the current Charlottetown facility's capacity of 36.

The current four hemodialysis sites will be consolidated into two sites -- and new capacity added -- to address increased demand and ensure higher quality service for our patients.

- The four hemodialysis clinics will be consolidated into two clinics in Charlottetown (QEH) and in Summerside (PCH).
- New treatment spaces will be added and allocated between the two sites depending upon demand.
- The eight clients currently receiving hemodialysis at Western Hospital will be provided hemodialysis at PCH and the 11 clients currently receiving hemodialysis at Souris will be provided dialysis at the QEH.
- There will be no staff reductions as a result of this site consolidation.

Centralizing hemodialysis services within larger acute-care facilities increases the quality of care by offering more resources and clinical staff to care for patients with multiple medical needs.