

Reminder of the requirement to use Fraser Health email systems

At Fraser Health, we all have a shared responsibility to protect the personal information of our patients and staff.

Over the past 18 months, many medical staff have transitioned to remote working, which has resulted in an increased reliance on email and other means of electronic communication. Therefore, it is timely to now remind you of the requirement to keep data safe by using Fraser Health email systems for work purposes.

Under the data protection requirements of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA), Fraser Health must protect personal information in its custody or under its control by ensuring reasonable security arrangements against such risks as unauthorized collection, use, disclosure or disposal. Any patient or staff data that we hold must be kept in a safe and secure manner. For this reason, Fraser Health requires the use of Fraser Health email accounts rather than other accounts that are publicly available (e.g. Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo, iCloud) for work purposes, as many work emails may contain personal information relating to patients or personnel information about staff. Such non-Fraser Health email systems must not be used because they do not comply with Fraser Health's policies on security and lack the appropriate data security safeguards that are required to protect patients, staff and our computer systems.

From a data security perspective, medical staff who also work at another B.C. health authority may use that other account for Fraser Health work purposes, as long as doing so is consistent with the other health authority's email policy.

For more information

- [Confidentiality and Security of Personal Information](#)
- [Digital Communication Policy](#)
- [Electronic Communications - May 2009](#)

We appreciate your support in sharing the responsibility of protecting the data of our patients and staff and our Fraser Health systems.

Sandeep Mann

General Counsel and Chief Privacy Officer

Gregor McWalter

Chief Information Officer