

The Adult Developmental Clinic

Dalhousie Family Medicine
Spryfield Community
Wellness Centre



Our Team

Dr Karen McNeil, CCFP, FCFP
Dr Jillian Achenbach, MSc, CCFP
Family practice residents
Inclusion Nova Scotia

Contact Information

Dalhousie Family Medicine Spryfield
Community Wellness Centre
16 Dentith Road
Halifax NS B3R 2H9

Phone: 902-473-1234
Fax: 902-417-1554

dalfamilymedicineclinics.com

The Dalhousie Family Medicine Adult Developmental Clinic sees patients older than 16 years of age who have been diagnosed with a developmental/intellectual disability. The clinic runs on Tuesday afternoons at the Community Wellness Centre in Spryfield.



We look forward to contributing to your patients' care. Thank you for the referral.

Our Vision

- To support primary care providers in their provision of care to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- To provide care in keeping with the Canadian Consensus Guidelines for the primary care of adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- To provide family practice residents and medical students with opportunities to learn about primary care of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities



Services Offered

- Proactive health care screening (physical exam*/medication review)
- Transitioning from pediatric care to adult care
- Assistance in assessing behavioural issues
- Pap smears
- Home visits (with a 20 min driving radius)
- Assistance in accessing resources
- Limited genetic testing (microarray + FragileX testing)

* Canadian Consensus Guidelines recommend an annual physical for persons with developmental disabilities (Canadian Family Physician, May 2018). *Nova Scotia MSI has billing codes for full physical exam 03.04C/36units and for an enhanced visit 03.03E/19.5 units.

Many of the recommendations in our consultation letter are based on the 2018 Canadian Consensus Guidelines for the primary care of adults with developmental disabilities (Canadian Family Physician).

Please let us know if there are sensory or anxiety issues we should take into account when providing care. We look forward to collaborating with patients, families, caregivers, and family physicians.

Referral and Assessment Process

All patients must have a primary care provider.

- Referral received from MD/NP
- Intake phone call (one hour with patient and/or caregiver)
- 2-3 visits are needed for a full assessment including a physical exam
- First visit usually includes full physical exam (adjusted to patient's tolerance)
- On occasion we may make referrals on the patient's behalf and we may treat minor conditions that present themselves during appointments
- Second visit includes a review of the management plan
- A consult letter is sent to referring physician and patient when the assessment is complete
- After our assessment is complete, we ask that patients visit family physician to discuss recommendations and how to best proceed

