



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 Team**

Dr Karen McNeil, CCFP, FCFP  
Dr Jillian Achenbach, MSc, CCFP  
Edna Revels, RN  
Tammy Roode, RN  
Nancy Laphen (administrative support)  
Family practice residents

**Contact information**

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[dalfamilymedicineclinics.com](http://dalfamilymedicineclinics.com)

**The Adult  
Developmental  
Clinic**



Dalhousie Family Medicine Spryfield  
Community Wellness Centre

## Our Vision

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



## Services Offered

- ☞ Proactive health care screening (physical exam\*/medication review)
- ☞ Transitioning from pediatric care to adult care
- ☞ Assistance in assessing and managing behavioural issues
- ☞ Problem specific (medical) capacity assessment
- ☞ Pap smears
- ☞ Home visits
- ☞ Assistance in accessing resources

\*Canadian Consensus Guidelines recommend an annual physical for persons with developmental disabilities (Canadian Family Physician, May 2011, Vol 57). \*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 2011 Canadian Consensus Guidelines for the primary care of adults with developmental disabilities (Canadian Family Physician).

## Referral and Assessment Process

All patients must have a family doctor.

- ☞ Referral received from family doctor/specialist
- ☞ Intake phone call (one hour with patient and/or caregiver)
- ☞ First appointment scheduled, taking into account special needs (light/auditory sensitivities)
- ☞ 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 you visit your family physician to discuss recommendations and how to best proceed

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.