

## Provincial Clinical Decision Support (CDS) Triggers

eDOCSNL is pleased to introduce a set of screening triggers based on nationally accepted screening criteria that have been modified slightly to suit provincial program requirements.

This means that there are now eleven Provincial Screening Clinical Decision Support (CDS) triggers in all EMR instances across the province. These triggers have been developed in collaboration with RHA and fee-for-service physician groups at the EMR Clinical Advisory Committee and approved by the Management Committee for distribution and use across the province.

This document explains what a CDS trigger is, why you would use one, the difference between goals and CDS triggers, and how to setup these triggers for use in your EMR.

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### What is a CDS Trigger?

The Provincial EMR CDS triggers are evidence-based assistive alerts for clinicians that have been developed for population-based screening procedures. These alerts are aligned with provincial and national guidelines for the age of the patient and frequency interval of the screening maneuvers.

For example, you could apply a trigger to any of your patients above the age of 18 years who have not had a Blood Pressure reading in the last year. When accessing the patient's chart, you would see the following CDS trigger:



**This 18+ year old patient has not had a BP reading in the last year**

### CDS Triggers versus Goals

As you learn more about CDS Triggers, you may wonder why you would use Goals when you have CDS Triggers or vice versa. The following offers a brief explanation.

#### Goals

Goals are added to each patient chart separately via the application of a population goal, a care plan or on an individual basis. Goals can be patient-specific or population-based. Goals modified to be individualized can be of benefit for subgroups of your patient population, such as those with high-risk criteria including family history of a disease state or those receiving treatments that require more frequent assessments.

When any goal-related clinical value is documented in the chart, the goal will automatically update and show whether the criteria for the goal has been met based on the documentation or clinical results. The details of the Goals in the sidebar will display the next time the procedure, activity, or test needs to be

completed based on a provincial or national standard or a provider determined interval. The Goal status will always be visible in the Goals tab of patient chart or in Sidebar in the Goals widget.

## CDS Triggers

CDS Triggers are population-based reminders applied to all patient charts based on selected criteria/logic (i.e., age, gender, documentation, clinical results) as chosen when the trigger is configured. The alert on a patient's chart will disappear once the trigger has been actioned and will re-appear when warranted.

All the triggers are activated when the patient chart has loaded in the EMR. This means that when the patient's chart is opened by the provider and becomes visible, the system will check for any triggers that have been set up for the provider/user who has logged on. It will then compare the logic of each trigger to the patient's chart. When the system detects that the patient meets the criteria for the trigger to display, it presents a message to the provider at the top of the patient's chart.

For instance, in the case of the Blood Pressure trigger above, the message will only display when the software detects that the patient has no blood pressure reading (documented in the standard Blood Pressure fields in Med Access) in the last year. When a blood pressure reading is documented in the BP fields in the patient's chart, the message will disappear from the patient's chart on the next load until such time as the criteria are again met.

## 11 Provincial CDS Triggers

| CDS Trigger  | Description  |
|--|--|
| <b>*eDOCSNL Provincial CDS Blood Pressure Monitoring</b>                 | <p>When this trigger is turned on for a user or a group, a message will appear at the top of the chart for any patient, age 18 years and older, who has not had their Blood Pressure charted in the last year using the standard BP fields in Med Access. It is important to note that BP readings recorded in free text in the body of a patient note are effectively invisible to the software for this purpose.</p> <p>The message will say "This 18+ year old has not had a BP reading in the last year."</p>  |
| <b>*eDOCSNL Provincial Screening CDS Breast Screening</b>                | <p>When this trigger is turned on for a user or a group, a message will appear at the top of the chart for any female, between the ages of 50-74, who does not have an active or completed Investigation category result task with a description containing the text string "mammo" in the last two years. This allows the trigger to be satisfied by results that contain the words "Mammogram" and/or "Mammography," as we have identified that legacy reports in some data conversions are described in numerous ways.</p> <p>The message at the top of these charts will say "This patient has not had a mammogram in the last two years."</p> |
| <b>*eDOCSNL Provincial Screening CDS Cardiovascular Risk Calculation</b> | <p>When this trigger is turned on for a user or a group, a message will appear at the top of the chart for any patient between the ages of 40-74 who does not have an active or completed attachment or form category result task with the description of "Framingham" in the last five years.</p>   |

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|  | <p>The message at the top of the chart will say “No Cardiovascular risk calculation documented in the last five years – click here to complete.” An icon next to the alert will allow the completion and documentation of a Framingham task when clicked, if desired.</p>   |
| <b>*eDOCSNL Provincial Screening CDS Cervical Cancer Screening age 21-69</b> | <p>When this trigger is turned on for a user or a group, a message will appear at the top of the chart for any female patient between the ages of 21-69 years who does not have an active or completed Lab result with a description of “PAP SMEAR” in the last three years.</p> <p>The message at the top of the chart will say “No pap smear for this 21–69-year-old female - click here to order.” An icon next to the alert will allow the provider to order a Pap Smear with the Provincial PAP Smear Requisition (NL) when clicked, if desired.</p>   |
| <b>*eDOCSNL Provincial Screening CDS Diabetes Screening</b>                  | <p>When this trigger is turned on for a user or a group, a message will appear at the top of the chart for any patient over 30 years of age who has not had a Fasting Blood Glucose or a HbA1c in the last three years.</p> <p>The message at the top of the chart will say “This patient has not been screened for Diabetes in the last three years.”</p>  |
| <b>*eDOCSNL Provincial Screening CDS FIT (Colorectal Cancer Screening)</b>   | <p>When this trigger is turned on for a user or a group, a message will appear at the top of the chart for any patient between the ages of 50-74 who does not have a Lab Category task result with a description of “Fecal Immunoassay” in the last two years. Note that only results that are documented in the EMR will cause the trigger to disappear, if the patient has not received a FIT result electronically then the trigger will continue to appear. Alternatively, the CDS can also be satisfied if a result is entered manually, based on a paper result you have received for the patient. Please contact your RHA helpdesk or <a href="mailto:info@edocsnl.ca">info@edocsnl.ca</a> for assistance on how to enter manual results.</p> <p>The message at the top of the chart will say “This patient has not had a FIT in the last 2 years – click here to order.” An icon next to the alert will allow the provider to order a FIT with the Provincial requisition when clicked, if desired.</p> |
| <b>*eDOCSNL Provincial Screening CDS Height Measurement</b>                  | <p>When this trigger is turned on for a user or a group, a message will appear at the top of the chart for any patient whose height has not been recorded on the EMR chart (in either of the standard discrete height fields in Med Access). It is important to note that height readings recorded in free text in the body of a patient note are effectively invisible to the software for this purpose.</p> <p>The message at the top of the chart will say “This patient has no height measurement recorded on their chart.”</p>   |
| <b>*eDOCSNL Provincial Screening CDS Lipid Panel Monitoring</b>              | <p>When this trigger is turned on for a user or a group, a message will appear at the top of the chart for any patients between the ages of 40-74 who do not have an LDL lab result in the last five years. LDL was selected because it is part of all true Lipid Panel results that flow into EMR.</p>   |

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|  | The message at the top of the chart will say “This 40–74-year-old has not had a Lipid Panel in the last five years.”  |
| <b>*eDOCSNL Provincial Screening CDS Smoking Status Confirmation</b> | <p>When this trigger is turned on for a user or a group, a message will appear at the top of the chart for any patients whose smoking status has not been recorded. This trigger identifies when the patient’s profile has not been updated for the current smoking status.</p> <p>The message at the top of the chart will say “Confirm smoking status in trigger.” An icon next to the alert will allow the completion and documentation of a profile item pertaining to smoking status when clicked, if desired.</p>   |
| <b>*eDOCSNL Provincial Screening CDS Weight Measurement</b>          | <p>When this trigger is turned on for a user or a group, a message will appear at the top of the chart for any patients who have not had a weight observation recorded on the chart in the last three years (in either of the standard discrete weight fields in Med Access). It is important to note that weight readings recorded in free text in the body of a patient note are effectively invisible to the software for this purpose.</p> <p>The message at the top of the chart will say “This patient has not had a weight measurement in the last three years.”</p> |
| <b>*eDOCSNL Provincial Screening CDS Influenza Vaccine Reminder</b>  | <p>When this trigger is turned on for a user or a group, a message will appear at the top of the chart for any patients who do not have an active or completed Immunization Category task with a description of “Influenza” in the last year on the chart.</p> <p>The message at the top of the chart will say “No flu vaccine recorded in the last year (&gt; than 6 months old).”</p>   |

## Setting Up CDS Triggers

### Before you begin:

- CDS Triggers can be setup by an individual provider for themselves or for a provider group by a user who has administrative privileges. Before you activate any triggers, you need to determine if you are setting them up for yourself as a single provider or for a group (i.e. your clinic) as this will influence the steps you will need to take. **Activating CDS Triggers for an individual user must be done by the user who wants to use them, whereas activating them for a group can be done by any user with admin privileges.**
- Ensure you have access to Templates library:
  - Access to the Templates library is provided through permissions in your Med Access EMR. To determine if you have access to the Templates library, check to see if you have a Templates icon in the upper right corner of the dashboard (see image below). If you do not see a Templates icon, contact the person in your clinic who has the administrative privileges for the EMR.



### Steps to Set-Up:

1. Once you have access to the Templates icon as described above, click on the icon.
2. In the Templates library, click on the CDS tab shown below.



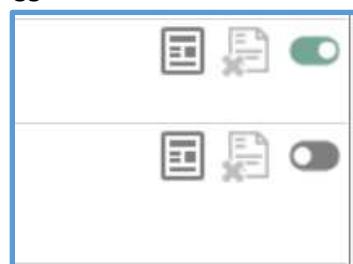
3. In the CDS tab, you will note that there are a large number of CDS Templates/Triggers in your EMR. As a result, you will need to search to select the appropriate CDS Triggers by:
  - o Scrolling down to find the **CDS Provincial Screening Triggers** that are all **prefixed by**:  
\*eDOCSNL Provincial Screening CDS
  - o **OR** holding down the 'Ctrl' key and 'F' key on the keyboard at the same time then typing **\*edocsnl provincial** in the search box that appears. This will quickly navigate you to the eleven Provincial Screening CDS Triggers.
4. Once you have decided which Provincial Screening CDS Triggers you want to activate, follow the steps below enable them:

### Enabling CDS Triggers as User:

- a. If you are enabling CDS Triggers for yourself, find the toggle on the right side of the screen for that trigger. You will note that when you hover over the toggle button there is description/help text that says "Enable CDS Warning for user."



- b. **Left click** the toggle button for the trigger you wish to activate (it will turn green). Once green in color, the trigger is activated. In the image below you will see the difference between a green/activated trigger and one that is not activated.



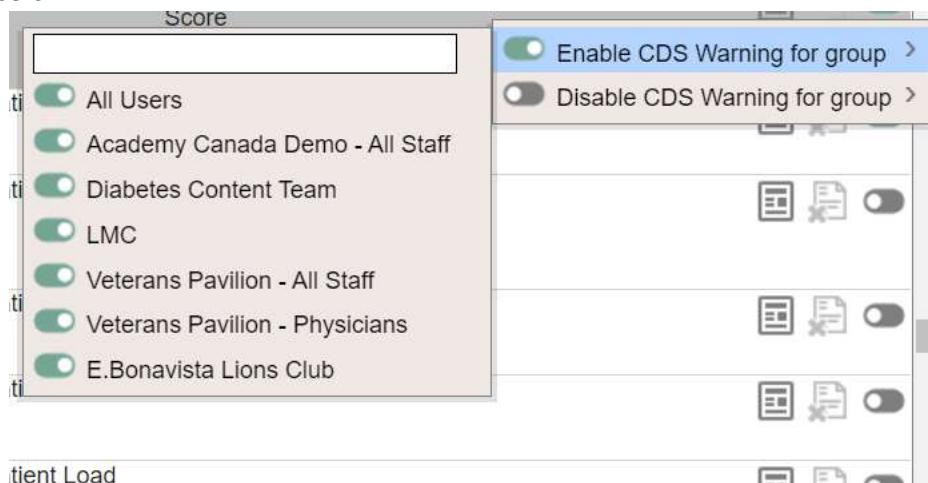
- c. To disable, click the green toggle back to gray.

#### **Enabling CDS Triggers as Group:**

- a. If you are activating a trigger for a group, the steps are slightly different. **Right click** on the toggle button instead of left clicking. You will note that you have the choice to “Enable CDS Warning for group.”



- b. Hover over “Enable CDS Warning for group” and the groups that show in the next menu are the ones you have been provided access to. Select which users you would like to have the CDS Trigger activated for. If you are in a clinic with front desk staff and you choose to activate it for all users, all the users that are in the “All Users” group will be able to see these messages at the top of their screen. It is important to review and determine what group should receive these communications. For example, if there is a provider group, you may want to consider enabling it for the provider group instead of all users.

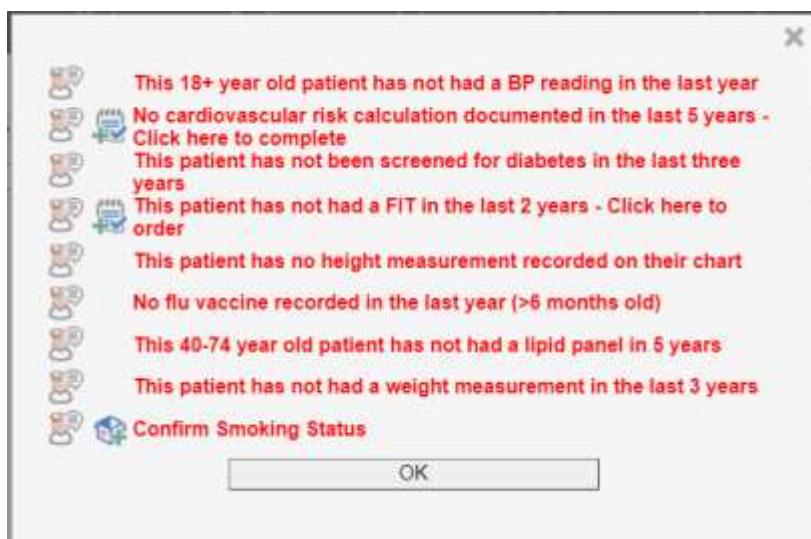


- c. To disable for the group, **right click** again and select “Disable CDS Warning for group.”

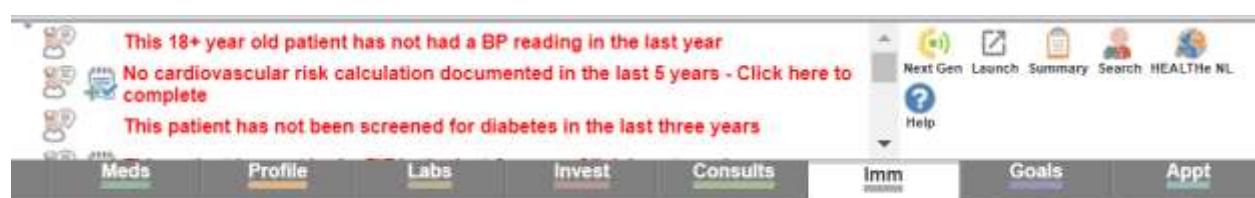
## Locating CDS Trigger Messages

When activated, the message noted above will display in two places:

1. On patient load, the first user to access the patient chart on a particular day will see a pop-up box, similar to the one below. The pop-up must be acknowledged before you can move on.



2. The message will also appear at top of the patient chart while the chart is in use, as seen below. Please note that when a large number of triggers are applicable to a given patient, they may not all appear so you will need to scroll through, using the scroll bar next to the messages displayed



### Please Note

If you right click the provider icon next to the trigger, as seen below, you will see the option to disable the alert for user. This will disable the alert for you, not for the individual patient. What this means is that this alert will be disabled for **ALL** patients, not the individual patient whose chart you are accessing. Please do not click the X here.



**A1c is overdue! Last A1c done > 3 months ago.**



**No pap smear for this 21-69 year old female - Click here to order**



**Disable CDS Alert For User**

**Disabling triggers for individual patients:** Please note that there is currently no way to disable a trigger for an individual patient, CDS triggers are a population-level feature. This means that occasionally you will encounter a trigger on a patient chart reminding you of a maneuver for a patient for whom it is no longer applicable (e.g. reminder of no FIT done on a patient who has been referred for colonoscopy). Since these triggers cannot be deactivated per patient, we would encourage you to evaluate whether they are appropriate for the individual patient and ignore them when they do not apply.

## Contact / Support

Email [info@edcosnl.ca](mailto:info@edcosnl.ca) for any additional information or if you require assistance.