



Dr. Elaine S. Bland

208-3625 Shaganappi Trail NW | Calgary, AB | T3A 0E2

Notice of Practice Closure

Dear Patients:

It is with mixed emotions and after much thought that I have decided to retire from my family practice after 19 years. Due to the unexpected loss of our partner Dr. Dan Johns, and an inability to find new physicians, Family Health Clinic will also be closing its doors at the same time. I will be continuing to work in palliative care at hospice & with the primary care network. It has been a privilege and an honor serving as your family doctor. **My last day of patient care is November 17th, 2023.**

Finding a New Doctor

Unfortunately, I have not found a physician to take over my practice. I recognize that changing physicians may be stressful, but I encourage you to seek continuity of care with the following suggestions to find a doctor for yourself:

1. Ask family and friends if their doctor might be able to accept you as a patient.
2. Speak to your local pharmacist who may be aware of new physicians in your area.
3. The Calgary Primary Care Network (PCN) group maintains an updated list of family physicians accepting new patients ([Primary Care Networks | Alberta Find a Doctor \(albertapcns.ca\)](https://www.albertapcns.ca)), searchable by home address, postal code or community.
4. Contact **RSRS** (see below). They often are aware of physicians accepting new patients.

Please remember to give the name of your new family doctor to all specialists, medical facilities (hospitals, labs, x-ray, ultrasound, etc.) and pharmacies you attend. It is also important that all outstanding tests you have done are followed up prior to November 17th, 2023. Do not forget to check when your prescriptions need renewing so that you are not without.

If you have an urgent medical matter in the absence of a doctor, please proceed to the nearest emergency room.

Your Medical Record

The College of Physicians & Surgeons requires that original patient records be safely stored for a period of time before they can be destroyed. **Your medical record does not automatically follow you to your next doctor.** I have selected RSRS, a physician-managed company, to safely and securely store all patient records from my practice and to assist you in obtaining a *certified copy* for yourself and/or your new physician.

I encourage each of you to obtain a certified copy of your personal medical history. It is an important file for your continued care and should be accessible at all times, *especially in the absence of a new doctor*. I have included an infographic illustrating 10 reasons why the record is so important. While there is a fee for the copy/transfer of medical records, it is not prohibitive. You can make arrangements for your medical record by contacting RSRS at:

www.recordsolutions.ca/DrESBland

Tel: 1-888-563-3732

Fax: 1-877-398-5932

Email: info@rsrs.com

Thank you for the opportunity to be a partner in your medical care and I wish you all the best in the future. I will, of course, be happy to see you any time prior to November 17th, 2023, for medical care.

Sincerely,

Dr. Elaine S. Bland

*RSRS is a physician-managed medical records storage facility. They are fully compliant with the guidelines set by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta and the relevant privacy regulations.