

Why do I need to enrol with my family doctor?

Your doctor has signed up for a new program called Family Medicine New Brunswick. This Program requires that their patients sign a form that states that they have formally enrolled with that physician.

The process for enrolling with your doctor is explained on the Patient Enrolment Form. This process, including the signing of a form, is common in several Canadian provinces, but is new to New Brunswick. In fact, millions of Canadians have signed forms just like these to enrol with their doctor.



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Why do I need to sign a Patient Enrolment Form?

Your doctor may want to be part of this Program for several different reasons. They want to provide care to you faster, and through different methods – like over the phone, instead of seeing you in person for a visit every time.

Some patients are worried about signing a form which commits them to a specific doctor. While over most patients in New Brunswick who have the option want to enrol with their doctor, some do not.

Unfortunately, your doctor cannot offer their full suite of services – like access to other members of their team for after-hours care, for example – to patients who have not enrolled with them.

What happens if I'm just not sure about enrolling?

If you are not sure if you wish to enrol with your doctor, there is no pressure to do so. You will continue to receive medical care from your doctor for some time.

- You are welcome to take this form home with you and talk to your family and friends about it.
- You are welcome to learn more about this Program, and other Programs like it across Canada, by visiting www.fmbnb.ca.

You do not need to decide any decision about your medical care immediately. You can remain “Undecided” about whether or not to enrol with your doctor for thirty days, after which we ask you to decide. If it would help, we ask you to talk to your doctor about the benefits to you, and what signing this form means for your relationship.

I've thought about it, I've talked to my doctor, and I still don't want to enrol with them for care.

Under this Program, patients who do not want to enrol with their doctor for their medical care will need to find another family doctor.

If you decide not to enrol with your family doctor, you can still see them for one full year. Your doctor will know when the year has been completed, and you will be informed. During this time, we actively encourage you to find another family doctor, though your doctor cannot do this for you.

Finding another doctor

Many family doctors in New Brunswick are not part of this new Program, and you are welcome to see one of them for your medical care without enrolling with them and signing the Patient Enrolment Form.

To find a doctor in your area who is taking patients or to sign up for a new family doctor, please visit Patient Connect NB by going to www.gnb.ca/health, or call **811** from your phone.