



Local Family Physicians join LHIN Team

Primary Care Leads collaborate to improve access to health care for Central East LHIN residents

NEWS

February 10, 2012

The Central East LHIN today took another major step in strengthening and further integrating primary care into local health planning by naming Dr. Christopher Jyu and Dr. Robert Drury as the Primary Care Leads for the Central East LHIN.

Dr. Jyu will be the Primary Care Lead for the LHIN's Scarborough Cluster and Dr. Drury will be the Primary Care Lead for the Durham and North East (Northumberland County, Peterborough City and County, City of Kawartha Lakes, Haliburton County) Clusters.

Dr. Drury, a Lindsay-based family physician with over 35 years of experience practising across Canada including Northern Ontario, British Columbia and Prince Edward Island, and Dr. Jyu, a Scarborough-based family physician who led the development of the first after-hours clinic in the Scarborough community, will work with the Central East LHIN to ensure that primary care services are better integrated with the work of other health sectors. By working together, the LHIN and local health service providers will continue to implement strategies to improve access to quality care for local residents.

Across the province, LHINs have been building great partnerships with local primary care providers. The introduction of a Primary Care Lead in each of the province's 14 LHINs is endorsed by both the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Ontario Medical Association and is in line with the government's Action Plan commitment to bring planning for the full patient journey under the LHINs. Through this collaborative work, local primary care providers can strengthen these partnerships and focus on implementing system initiatives identified locally by the LHIN through extensive community consultation to address local health care challenges.

In the Central East LHIN these local initiatives have included providing family physicians with timely access to hospital discharge information through electronic systems, opening out-patient geriatric clinics for seniors that family physicians can refer their patients to and developing additional educational resources on chronic conditions such as diabetes, so that family physicians can provide their patients with the information they need to better manage their conditions.

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QUOTES

“Having Primary Care Leads in each LHIN shows the government’s commitment to improving access to health care. Today’s announcement is good news for Ontarians. Patients – especially seniors - will benefit from the earlier intervention and case management that our primary care physicians and their teams provide.”

- Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

“Ontario’s doctors know that progress has been made in improving and strengthening the health care system but believe there is more work to be done. By appointing Primary Care Leads in each of the LHINs, and building on existing partnerships and successes, local family physicians can work more closely with other health care providers to improve access and find innovative ways to save the system money that can be re-invested into patient care.”

- Dr. Stewart Kennedy, President, Ontario Medical Association

“As the LHINs take on responsibility for planning for primary care, the addition of Dr. Drury and Dr. Jyu to our team will support the Central East LHIN in continuing to achieve more accountability for delivering better care for better value by ensuring that the primary health care needs of people in our community are identified, co-ordinated and addressed as a truly integrated system. As the Primary Care Leads for the Central East LHIN, they will be instrumental in focusing on local system initiatives that will integrate with our primary care providers as we create a seamless system of care.”

- Deborah Hammons, Central East LHIN CEO

QUICK FACTS

- Dr. Drury is the former Chief of Staff at Ross Memorial Hospital in Lindsay and was a member of the executive committee that oversaw the development of the Central East LHIN’s Clinical Services Plan.
- He has also served as the hospital’s Vice President and President of Medical Staff, Chief of Obstetrics, Chief of Pediatrics and Utilization Physician
- As a surveyor for Accreditation Canada, he has surveyed small community hospitals and larger tertiary centres from Vancouver to St. John’s Newfoundland
- Recently Dr. Drury travelled to Ghana in West Africa as part of a medical team to provide care in isolated communities.

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- Dr. Jyu is an elected Board member of the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) and OntarioMD.
- He has co-chaired the Central East LHIN's Primary Care Working Group since it was first established in 2007 and was the lead physician in the development of the Timely Discharge Information System
- As the Primary Care Lead for the Ontario Diabetes Strategy in the Central East LHIN, Dr. Jyu works with the Regional Co-ordination Centre and his primary care colleagues on implementing consistent standards and practices for diabetes care
- Dr. Jyu is the lead physician for the East GTA Family Health Team.
- Dr. Jyu is a member of the Chinese Canadian Medical Society (CCMS) and is an active staff member at both the Rouge Valley Health System and The Scarborough Hospital. He is a courtesy staff member at the Toronto East General Hospital, North York General Hospital, and Lakeridge Health Corporation.
- He is involved in a number of charitable activities and chairs several Continuing Medical Education (CME) Committees.

For more information, please contact:

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LHINs are the only organizations in Ontario that bring together health care partners from the following sectors - hospitals, community care, community support services, community mental health and addictions, community health centres and long-term care - to develop innovative, collaborative solutions leading to more timely access to high quality services for the residents of the Central East LHIN and Ontario. By supporting these important partnerships, LHINs are ensuring that Ontarians have access to an effective and efficient health care system that delivers improved health care results and a better patient experience.

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