



New Regional Kidney Disease Plan Released

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Hospitals strike formal partnership to better serve patients

Peterborough, ON: The partnership between the region's hospitals that care for patients with kidney disease is growing stronger. Today the three hospitals: Peterborough Regional Health Centre (PRHC), Ross Memorial Hospital (RMH), and Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH), along with the Peterborough site of Dialysis Management Centre Inc. (DMC) and the Peterborough Regional Nephrology Associates (PRNA) have released a new strategic plan.

Through their collaborative efforts, they will achieve their mission of "working together to care for patients with kidney disease to meet growing community needs." The strategic plan is based on three key themes:

- 1. Home Dialysis:** a commitment to foster increased patient uptake of home dialysis modalities;
- 2. High Quality, Consistent Care:** a commitment to continued tracking of performance and providing a consistent patient experience across all four partner organizations;
- 3. Right Staff, Right Information:** a commitment to support service delivery with appropriate health human resources and effective information technology systems.

The 2010 – 2013 Peterborough Regional Renal Program Strategy represents the next step in the existing relationships between these organizations. It has been developed in cooperation with Community Care Access Centre and other community service organizations. The plan has clearly articulated outcomes, projects and associated metrics.

In addition to life-saving services provided in their hemodialysis centres, this shared plan commits the partner organizations to working collaboratively to expand access to home dialysis in the region. The *Home First* approach requires the expansion of the existing Peritoneal Dialysis program and the creation of a new Home Hemodialysis program. Through this expansion, our goal is to have a minimum of 30% of all candidate patients in the region on a home dialysis modality by 2013.

"Implementing this strategy will ensure that our regional efforts are aligned with the objectives of the Central East LHIN's Renal Network and the Ontario Renal Network. As part of our plan, the partner organizations will harmonize their performance and quality metrics and together will contribute regional data to the CE LHIN and provincial performance measurement systems," said Dr. Peter McLaughlin, Chief of Staff at PRHC.

"NHH is very pleased to have collaborated on the development of this new regional Renal Program Strategy. Many west Northumberland patients living with kidney disease rely on the services delivered at NHH through the regional relationship with PRHC. NHH looks forward, through this strategy, to building on our strengths to further improve our

local dialysis services in the months and years ahead,” said Helen Brenner, Vice President, Patient Services and Chief Nursing Executive at NHH.

“The aim of this strategy is to strengthen the linkages in a regional network of renal care. For patients, this will mean access to a highly coordinated spectrum of renal services,” said Carol Smith Romeril, Vice President of Patient Care at Ross Memorial Hospital.

“The Central East LHIN congratulates these organizations on the development of a Regional Kidney Disease Strategy,” said Deborah Hammons. “It’s this type of partnership, innovation and collaboration that will allow the LHIN to achieve its Strategic Aim of reducing the impact of vascular disease by 10% by 2013.”

“The success of the Peterborough Regional Renal Program Strategy depends ultimately on the day-to-day efforts of frontline healthcare professionals and other staff,” said Dr. McLaughlin. “Collectively, this new plan confirms our organizations’ commitment to supporting their efforts to meet the needs of patients with kidney disease in the region.”

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