

NEWS RELEASE
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\$3.2 MILLION CHRONIC DISEASE FUNDING TARGETS KIDNEY DISEASE, DIABETES AND SELF MANAGEMENT
System approach to managing chronic disease will benefit patients and their families

With chronic disease having a significant impact on residents and health care providers in the Central East LHIN, the board of the Central East LHIN has approved and funded three priority projects focused on improving care for chronic disease patients and their families.

“We’re excited about these projects and the difference they are going to make in the lives of the health care professionals who deliver the services in the Central East LHIN and the local residents who are receiving these services,” said Foster Loucks, Chair of the Central East LHIN Board of Directors. “We said that Chronic Disease Prevention and Management was a priority, and we are delivering on our promise through these trend setting initiatives.”

“Chronic diseases can cause pain, limit mobility, impede daily living and have a significant effect on an individual’s quality of life,” said Dr. George Buldo, co-chair of the Central East LHIN’s Chronic Disease Prevention and Management (CDPM) Network and a nephrologist at Lakeridge Health in Durham Region. “When a person has a chronic disease, it is almost always a shared experience with family, friends and others doing what they can to provide support to the person.”

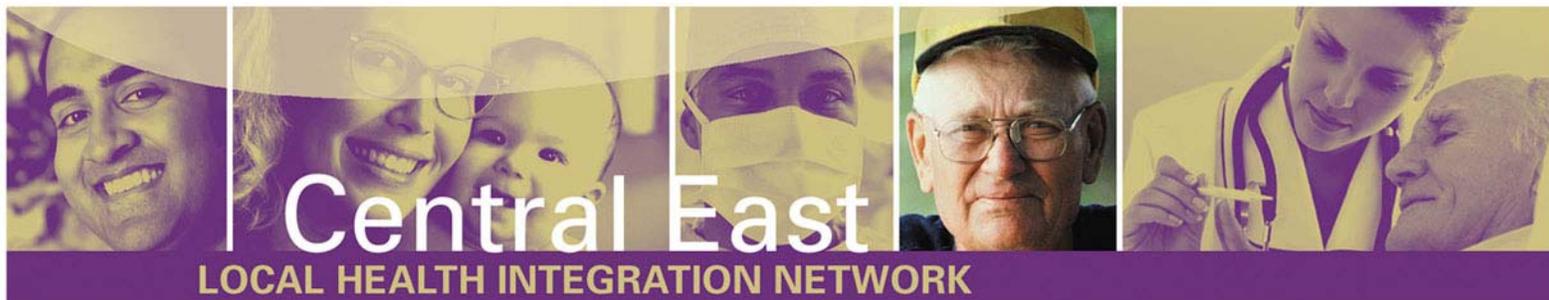
“It’s important to prevent or delay the on-set of chronic disease by providing effective comprehensive management and treatment for those living with chronic diseases,” said Dr. Don Harterre, co-chair of the CDPM Network and a family physician in Peterborough. “Effective chronic disease programs offer systematic care for the chronically ill, through early identification and assessment, diagnosis, timely interventions based on best practices, education on the disease, and follow-up.”

“This is an exciting step forward in our government’s commitment to preventing and managing the devastating effects of chronic diseases,” said George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care. “These programs will help to improve the quality of life for residents and will ultimately help to decrease visits to hospital emergency rooms.”

With designated health service providers acting as the Project Sponsors, teams will now be created to implement each of these projects:

Chronic Kidney Disease Early Intervention and Outreach – will begin with the renal programs at Peterborough Regional Health Centre, Lakeridge Health and The Scarborough Hospital who will work together to develop a process that can be applied across the Central East region to support early identification of patients who may have chronic kidney disease and faster referral to pre-dialysis programs. In some cases this will include outreach to targeted populations at risk for chronic kidney disease including the aboriginal community and new immigrants. The goal is to have decreased hospital admissions; decreased emergency room visits and increased quality of life. The recently released ICES Atlas “Predicting the Growth in Dialysis Services in Ontario 2006-2010”, projects that the Central East LHIN will have the largest number of people using dialysis services of all LHINs in the GTA by 2010. The number of people using dialysis services is projected to grow from approximately 500 in 1998 to over 1500 by 2010.

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Diabetes Clinical Practice Guidelines Rollout – will allow the recently formed Central East LHIN Diabetes Network to educate and inform physicians and patients about the upcoming Canadian Diabetes Association 2008 Clinical Practice Guidelines. The Network, which is comprised of health care professionals who specialize in diabetic education and care, will also work together to ensure that the general public and health service providers are aware of what diabetes resources are available to them and their patients in their local community. Diabetes is a growing chronic disease in Canada. In 2005 over 2 million Canadians had diabetes and this is projected to grow to over 3 million by 2010, with Type 2 diabetes, caused by an ageing population, increasing obesity and physical inactivity, accounting for over 90% of diabetes cases.

Self Management Training for Consumers and Caregivers – is expected to target over 3000 people over the next three years as training and education is provided to patients and their families on how to manage their chronic condition including information on exercise, appropriate use of medications, communication with caregivers, family and friends and evaluating new treatments. This Chronic Disease Self-Management Model (CDSM) will be introduced as the standard across the Central East region and will be delivered in community and health care settings.

Information on these Chronic Disease Prevention and Management (CDPM) Priority Programs can be found on the Central East LHIN website – www.centraleastlhin.on.ca – behind the Resource Documents/Integration button. Local residents and health care providers are encouraged to join the CDPM Network so they can have input into the development of new projects.

For more information, please visit the website or contact the Central East LHIN office at 1-866-804-5446.

Funding Details:

Project	Sponsors	Funding
Chronic Kidney Disease Early Intervention and Outreach	Lakeridge Health Corporation; Peterborough Regional Health Centre ; The Scarborough Hospital	\$1,880,000
Diabetes Clinical Practice Guidelines Rollout	Lakeridge Health Corporation	\$110,100
Self Management Training for Consumers and Caregivers	Central East CCAC	\$1,292,139
Total		\$3,282,239

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The Central East LHIN, which recently released its first Integrated Health Service Plan, is one of 14 not-for-profit organizations, created by the provincial government to be responsible for planning, integrating and funding local health services - hospitals, long term care facilities, community care access centres, community health centres, community support services and mental health and addictions agencies.

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