

Ontario Cancer News



Quality and Innovation Awards 2008: call for submissions

Cancer Care Ontario and the Cancer Quality Council of Ontario are pleased to announce the call for submissions for the 2008 Quality and Innovation Awards. These awards recognize significant contributions to quality or innovation in the delivery of cancer care. Eligible nominees must be involved in the delivery of cancer care within Ontario. Successful applicants will be notified in early November and asked to attend an awards dinner in Toronto on November 19th, 2008.

The nomination deadline is September 30, 2008.

For application instructions and forms, see the [Call for Nominations](#) on Cancer Care Ontario's website.



Cancer Care Ontario adds a new quality measure to the Cancer System Quality Index

Now reporting on radiation utilization, Cancer Care Ontario's Cancer System Quality Index tracks the percentage of patients receiving radiation treatment at some point in their cancer journey.

- For more information, [view the Radiation Treatment Utilization section of the CSQI](#).

In addition, the CSQI now provides an at-a-glance view of Ontario's performance in delivering a combination of treatments to cancer patients such as surgery, radiation treatment and systemic treatment.

- For more information on Ontario's performance in delivering these treatments, [view the Snapshot of Cancer Treatments](#).



Research update

Cancer Care Ontario team examines changing incidence of AIDS-related cancers

For the first time in Canada, a Cancer Care Ontario team led by Director of Surveillance Dr. Loraine Marrett, examined the influence of the AIDS epidemic on the incidence of Kaposi sarcoma and non-Hodgkin lymphoma in Ontario. This report was recently published in the international journal *Cancer Causes & Control*.

This is the first time that trends in these three conditions have been reported together in Canada.

Results from the paper showed that rates of Kaposi sarcoma rose and fell sharply between 1981 and 2000 following the rise in AIDS cases during the early 1980s and then the fall in the early 1990s with the introduction of antiretroviral drugs and possibly with the decrease in HIV infection rates. The trends for non-Hodgkin lymphoma are more complex. Overall incidence of non-Hodgkin lymphoma did not follow the rise and fall of the AIDS epidemic, although AIDS-like patterns were noted among young men.

Lead author on the paper was Saira Bahl, a research associate and epidemiologist in Population Studies and Surveillance at Cancer Care Ontario.

- [Read the article in full for more details](#).

National Sun Survey report published

Young people are spending the most time in the sun and are least likely to be protected from overexposure to the sun according to a national survey led by Cancer Care Ontario senior scientist and Director of Surveillance, Dr. Loraine Marrett, and funded by the Canadian Cancer Society.

- [Read the National Sun Survey Highlights Report for more details](#).



Cancer Care Ontario launches the new and improved Virtual Library

Cancer Care Ontario's new and improved Virtual Library is now available. The Virtual Library is a collection of electronic cancer-related resources available to subscribers.

- Virtual Library now provides access to almost 2,000 titles including journals and textbooks, and continues to have access to the TNM online.
- Effective immediately, users may now search for resources by title, alphabetical sequencing and through an A-Z platform.

For more information contact Prabhjot Minhas at prabhjot.minhas@cancercare.on.ca.



People news

Dr. Craig Earle joins Cancer Care Ontario as Director of the Health Services Research Program, a joint effort between CCO and the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research to enhance Ontario's capacity to study how the organization and delivery of its cancer services affects the quality and outcomes of care.

Dr. Earle spent 10 years in Boston, where he was an Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and an Associate Professor of Health Policy and Management at the Harvard School of Public Health prior to joining CCO. His clinical practice was at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Brigham & Women's Hospital, specializing in gastrointestinal malignancies. He was also the founding Director of the Lance Armstrong Foundation Adult Survivorship Clinic at Dana-Farber. His personal research interests focus on evaluating and improving the quality of care received by patients with advanced cancer and cancer survivors. He will be primarily located at the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES), with a clinical oncology practice at the Odette Cancer Centre at Sunnybrook.

Lynn Guerriero joins Cancer Care Ontario as Director, Wait Times Information Program, where she will lead and manage the Program including strategy, delivery and operations. In addition, she will build and manage relationships with key internal and external stakeholders including the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Access to Care Program Office and the Local Health Integration Network Leads.

Lynn has over 20 years experience in health care, with a solid management background in a variety of health care settings including acute care and community care. In her previous role as Senior Director of Community Programs at Bloorview Kids Rehab, Lynn managed delivery of paediatric rehabilitation services across several sites. Lynn holds a Master of Health Science in Health Administration from the University of Toronto. She is also a Certified Health Executive with the Canadian College of Health Service Executives.

Marisa Oldnall joins Cancer Care Ontario as Director, Project Management Office (PMO) reporting into the Deputy CIO division. In this role, Marisa will provide leadership to the PMO project managers and their teams, identify potential process improvement opportunities and oversee stakeholder relationships.

Marisa holds a Bachelor of Arts degree, specializing in Social Sciences from the University of Windsor in Ontario and is a certified Project Management Professional. Marisa also has numerous years of experience in project management leadership, working for organizations such as X-PM Inc., MTS Allstream, and Deloitte & Touche.

Mary Jane Esplen, RN, PhD, has been announced as the new Director of the Anna Maria de Souza Knowledge Transfer Centre for Oncology Nurses. Dr. Esplen is a clinician, educator, author and researcher at the Princess Margaret Hospital and the Toronto General Hospital Research Institute. Following her nursing education, she obtained an MSc degree at the Faculty of Nursing and then a PhD at the Institute of Medical Sciences at the University of Toronto and has done her post-doctorate in cancer genetics at the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute in Toronto. Dr. Esplen held a National Cancer Institute of Canada career scientist award for several years, followed currently with a scientist award from CIHR and is the current president of the Canadian Association of Psychosocial Oncology.

Dr. Esplen is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine and in the Lawrence Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto. Her work in psychosocial oncology, women's health, palliative care and the psychosocial impact of cancer genetics is internationally renowned. Dr. Esplen's leadership will facilitate the implementation of this world-class centre of learning for Ontario's oncology nurses in the next five years.

Bill Campbell, Provincial Director of the Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) will take on a new role as the Director of Health System Development with the Mississauga Halton LHIN.

Bill led the OBSP program since joining Cancer Care Ontario in 2004. He contributed to the ongoing operations and administration of the program and led in the management of policy, program, regional partner and stakeholder interactions for

mammography screening.



Remembering our past

Since the mid 1930s, before Cancer Care Ontario's predecessor The Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation (OCTRF) was founded in 1943, there were radiotherapy institutes across Ontario, each associated with a large general hospital.

In 1947, the old Institute of Radiotherapy in Kingston became the first clinic funded and operated by the OCTRF when it was moved to a new building and renamed the Ontario Cancer Foundation (OCF) Kingston Clinic. By 1954 the OCTRF had taken over clinics in Port Arthur (Thunder Bay), Hamilton, Ottawa, London and Windsor. Clinics in Sudbury and Toronto (Sunnybrook) were added later. In 1984 these eight OCF Cancer Clinics were renamed regional cancer centres.

Twenty years later, in January 2004, Cancer Care Ontario transferred the operation of these regional cancer centres to their host hospitals, and the hospital and cancer centre oncology activities were integrated into a single program.

Since 2003, Ontario has added six new cancer centres to the original eight.



Ontario Cancer Facts

Esophageal cancer is a rare but highly fatal cancer, accounting for 1% of all cancers diagnosed in Ontario in 2004. While overall incidence has changed little over the past two decades, the two main types of esophageal cancer show opposing trends. Adenocarcinoma incidence rose dramatically at 4% per year between 1981 and 2004, while squamous cell carcinoma incidence declined at 2% per year. Similar incidence trends have been reported in the U.S., some parts of Europe and Australia. Adenocarcinoma has now become the most common type of esophageal cancer in Ontario.

- [Read more in the July edition of Ontario Cancer Facts on Cancer Care Ontario's website.](#)

To subscribe to Ontario Cancer Facts, go to the subscription link at <https://webcon.cancercare.on.ca/CCONews/>.



Cancer 2020 eScoop

Cancer 2020 e-Scoop is a monthly bulletin from Cancer Care Ontario's Division of Preventive Oncology, consisting of regional and provincial news, initiatives, events and resources relevant to those working in cancer prevention and screening.

- [Read the summer issue of Cancer 2020 eScoop](#)
-



Upcoming events

17th International Congress on Palliative Care, September 23-26, 2008, Palais des Congrès, Montréal

This biennial international congress is presented by the Palliative Care Division of the Departments of Medicine and Oncology of McGill University. Poster abstracts may be submitted until May 28, 2008. For more information, to register or to submit an abstract, please visit www.pal2008.com or call 450-292-3456 ext. 227.

OHA Health Achieve - Inspiring Ideas and Innovation 2008, November 3-5, 2008, Toronto, Ontario

Join Cancer Care Ontario at the Ontario Hospital Association's annual conference and exhibition. For more information, or to register [go to the OHA website](#).

Contact Us

All enquiries and article suggestions should be directed to:

Lisa West
Public Affairs
Cancer Care Ontario
620 University Avenue
Toronto, ON M5G 2L7
phone: (416) 971-9800 x 3130
fax: (416) 971-9800
e-mail: publicaffairs@cancercare.on.ca

[return](#)

[Contact Information](#) | [Printable Newsletter](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Copyright & Privacy Policy](#) |