



DISTRICT HEALTH COUNCIL

Your Local Voice in Health Planning

Durham Region, Haliburton,
Northumberland,
Peterborough Counties and
City of Kawartha Lakes
(formerly Victoria County)

Durham Haliburton Kawartha & Pine Ridge District Health Council

150 King Street,
Suite 300
Peterborough, Ontario
K9J 2R9

Telephone:
1-705-748-2992
1-800-833-7543

Fax:
1-705-748-9600

E-Mail:
dhc@dhc-dhkpr.org

Project Staff:
Dianne Cairney

Durham Region Service
Review Steering Group:
Roger Cook (Chair)
Dr. Don Curtis
Maureen Gmitrowicz
Eileen Higdon
Paul Roland
Peggy Vokins

Additional information is
available at Council's
web site:

www.dhc@dhkpr.org

District Health Council

DURHAM REGION SERVICE REVIEW

JANUARY 2004

This is a project update on the Durham HKPR District Health Council's (DHC) current review of acute care-related services in Durham Region. We encourage you to share this newsletter with colleagues in your community.

PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

The Durham HKPR DHC identified the need to assess the current status of acute care services in Durham Region, including the status of implementation of the HSRC directions for Durham Region. They also recognized the need for integrated planning that addresses the future needs for acute care services and sustainability of the system to support planning for health care services beyond the 2003 time horizon of the Health Services Restructuring Commission.

The purpose of the Durham Region Service Review is to:

1. Assess the current capacity of community and home-based services, and project future needs.
2. Assess the current capacity of acute care (in-hospital) services and project future needs.
3. Identify alternatives to address projected future service needs and their potential impact across the continuum of care, focusing on ambulatory care, home-based community care, diagnostics and primary care. This will include identifying existing hospital-based services that could be relocated to better meet community need.
4. Develop recommended options to best meet future requirements for these services, addressing the balance of services, needs and resources for sustainability of the system.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:

The project will progress through four phases. Throughout the phases, stakeholder input will occur through a variety of methods including data and information sharing, expert panels, key informant interviews, and consultation sessions.

Phase 1: Project Initiation

In this phase, which has recently been completed, the project infrastructure, including the Steering Group, was established.

Phase 2: Data Analysis and Identification of Themes

Phase 2 will focus on data gathering and analysis in order to identify the themes for stakeholder consultation.

Phase 3: Consultation and Development of Options

Phase 3 will build on the analysis completed in Phase 2, incorporating stakeholder consultations and input to:

1. Validate and expand on the themes identified through the data analysis;
2. Develop options to respond to these themes and address future acute care requirements;
3. Prioritize options; and,
4. Identify potential next steps.

Phase 4: Recommendations and Approvals

Phase 4 focuses on project completion and approval processes. A consolidated report outlining the process, analysis, consultation input, and recommendations and next steps will be developed for District Health Council approval and submission to the Minister of Health & Long-Term Care.

THE DURHAM REGION SERVICE REVIEW STEERING GROUP:

The Durham Region Service Review Steering Group is a time-limited, project-specific group whose responsibilities include:

- Providing overall guidance to achieve the stated objectives of the Durham Region Service Review.
- Identifying themes and design consultation processes.
- Reviewing and deliberating on recommendations developed through the analysis.
- Approving the final report for submission to the District Health Council.

HEALTH CLUSTERS:

The *Durham Region Service Review* will focus on distinct care processes ["health cluster"], which will be determined through an analysis of current service utilization patterns. The selected health clusters will serve as "proxies" for the total acute care system.

For each selected "health cluster", the *Review* will:

- Identify current status and project future needs;
- Develop an integrated profile that describes the care and services, inter-relationships, and transition points along the continuum of care;
- Use expert panels to develop and validate the integrated profile;
- Identify and apply relevant benchmarks; and,
- Develop options to respond to identified issues and address future acute care requirements (along the continuum of care as described in the integrated profile).

The Health Clusters have been selected, based on evaluation criteria of:

- Data availability and data integrity to support development of the integrated profile;
- Acute care volumes and utilization;
- Resource intensity of care; and,
- Synergy with other DHC projects/ Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care directives.

The Steering Group agreed to the following health clusters, as the initial clusters for developing the integrated profiles (more clusters may be identified as the analysis progresses):

- Pediatrics (specific age cut-offs to be defined as the integrated profile is developed)
- Obstetrics
- Adult Cancer Disease
- Adult Respiratory Disease
- Adult Heart Disease

CURRENT STATUS:

The Durham Region Service Review Steering Group has confirmed the Health Clusters for building the integrated profiles.

The data analysis is currently underway, using data from the Canadian Institute for Health Information, for inpatient and same day surgery care.

NEXT STEPS:

Next steps include:

- Population projections;
- Data requests to hospitals and Durham Access to Care, specific to health clusters;
- Development of an integrated profile for each health cluster, including projections of future need;
- Initiation of expert panels for each integrated profile; and,
- Stakeholder consultations, in Phase 3.

Here's how you can share your thoughts and experiences with the Durham Region Service Review Steering Group:

- ✓ Plan to attend a consultation session (more information will be available in January – February 2004)
- ✓ Forward written submissions, email or phone calls to the DHC office.