

To receive this monthly e-bulletin, please send your request to OHTACinfo.moh@ontario.ca. We would appreciate your providing your contact details including your name, title and organization (not required). All details are kept confidential and will not be supplied to third parties.

NEW REPORTS FROM MAS & OHTAC

The following reports are posted, or will be posted this week in final version. These can be accessed online at the [Ontario Health Technology Assessment Series website](#).

1. *Diabetes Strategy Evidence Platform*. This report is a 'mega-analysis' of the primary strategies used for the treatment and management of diabetes and consists of seven subtopic reports, as well as a synthesis report summarizing their results. The reports included are:

- *Continuous Subcutaneous Insulin Infusion (CSII) Pumps for Type 1 and Type 2 Adult Diabetic Populations; OHTAS vol.9 no. 20*
- *Behavioural Interventions for Type 2 Diabetes; Continuous Subcutaneous Insulin Infusion (CSII) Pumps for Type 1 and Type 2 Adult Diabetic Populations; OHTAS vol.9 no. 21*
- *Bariatric Surgery for People with Diabetes and Morbid Obesity; OHTAS vol.9 no. 22*
- *Community-Based Care for the Management of Type 2 Diabetes; OHTAS vol.9 no. 23*
- *Home Telemonitoring for Type 2 Diabetes; OHTAS vol.9 no. 24*
- *Application of the Ontario Diabetes Economic Model (ODEM) to Determine the Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Impact of Selected Type 2 Diabetes Interventions in Ontario; OHTAS vol.9 no. 25*

2. *Specialized multidisciplinary community-based care series*. This report is a 'mega-analysis' of community-based care and consists of two subtopic reports, as well as a synthesis report summarizing their results. The reports included are:

- *Community-Based Care for the Specialized Management of Heart Failure; OHTAS vol.9 no. 17*
- *Community-Based Care for Chronic Wound Management; OHTAS vol.9 no. 18*

Please note that a related title, *Community-Based Care for the Management of Type 2 Diabetes*, has also been posted with the Diabetes Strategy Evidence Platform; *OHTAS vol.9 no. 23*.

3. *Phakic Intraocular Lenses for the Treatment of Refractive Errors (OHTAS vol.9 no. 14)* and *Intraocular Lenses for the Treatment of Age-Related Cataracts (OHTAS vol.9 no. 15)*. These two reports examine the effectiveness, safety, and cost-effectiveness of intraocular lenses (IOLs) for the treatment of myopia, hyperopia, astigmatism, and age-related cataracts. Also examined is whether or not certain patient subgroups (e.g. high myopia or low vision) benefit more from IOLs.
4. *Gastric Electrical Stimulation*. This rapid review was conducted to update the 2006 evidence-based review (*OHTAS vol.6 no. 17*) on the use of gastric electrical stimulation (GES) for the treatment of 1) gastroparesis and 2) morbid obesity. Overall, the updated GRADE quality of evidence is unchanged from the 2006 evidence-based analysis (low) and the same uncertainties apply in terms of study quality, consistency, and directness of results. The conclusion from the 2006 MAS evidence-based review remains unchanged.
5. OHTAC's recommendations concerning the *Prevention and Management of Pressure Ulcers* have also been published and are [available online here](#).

UP FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The following reports are now available in draft form on the [MAS website](#) for public comment and input. MAS and OHTAC encourage readers to download and review these reports. All feedback, comments and suggestions should be sent to: OHTACinfo.moh@ontario.ca.

1. *Safety of Laparoscopic Adjustable Gastric Banding*. Carried out as an update of a 2005 evidence-based review by MAS, this rapid review considers the use of the use of bariatric surgery for the treatment of morbid obesity given recent concerns over complications following LAGB insertion. This report is open for comment until October 28, 2009.
2. *Point-of-Care International Normalized Ratio (INR) Monitoring Devices for Patients on Long-term Oral Anticoagulation Therapy*. Following a meeting on September 25, OHTAC has issued its preliminary recommendation on the use of point-of-care devices for INR measurement. Notably, the recommendation state that such devices be made available in Ontario as an alternative to laboratory-based testing and that implementation strategies consider the advice of an expert panel committee examining this issue. This report is open for comment until November 4, 2009.

COMING SOON

In the coming weeks, the following reports will be made available on the [MAS website](#):

1. *Airway Clearance Devices for Cystic Fibrosis*. This report will examine the safety and efficacy of airway clearance devices (ACDs) for cystic fibrosis and attempt to differentiate between devices, where possible, on grounds of clinical efficacy, quality of life, safety and/or patient preference.
2. *Vitamin D Testing*. This review will evaluate the prevalence and clinical utility of Vitamin D testing.
3. *Ultraviolet Phototherapy Management of Moderate-to-Severe Plaque Psoriasis*. This report will examine the available evidence surrounding the safety and efficacy of the ultraviolet therapy for the treatment of moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis.
4. *Population-Based Smoking Cessation Strategies*. The objective of this report will be to provide the Ministry of Health Promotion (MHP) with a summary of existing evidence-based reviews on clinical and economic outcomes of population-based smoking cessation strategies.
5. *Cancer Screening with Digital Mammography for Women at Average Risk for Breast Cancer, MRI for Women at High Risk*. This report will explore the effectiveness of two separate modalities, digital mammography and magnetic resonance imaging, relative to film mammography, in the screening of women asymptomatic for breast cancer.

To keep up-to-date with the draft releases and all new materials from MAS and OHTAC, be sure to visit to the "What's New" section of our websites.

For What's New at OHTAC, [click here](#). For What's New at MAS, [click here](#).

As usual, OHTAC and MAS welcome your questions and comments. Please submit them to us at: OHTACinfo.moh@ontario.ca