



About this E-Bulletin

This monthly e-bulletin is published by Health Quality Ontario (HQO). It is designed to keep you up-to-date on the research and reporting activities of HQO's Medical Advisory Secretariat (MAS) and the work of the Ontario Health Technology Advisory Committee (OHTAC).

Where to Find It

To read all new materials from MAS and OHTAC, be sure to visit the "What's New" section of our [website](#). To subscribe to the e-bulletin, write to Subscriptions@hqontario.ca

Questions and Comments

We welcome your questions and comments. You can write to MAS at MASinfo@hqontario.ca and OHTAC at OHTACinfo@hqontario.ca.

Making Evidence Relevant | March 2012

Open for Public Comment:

Multiple Intravenous Infusions Phase 1b - Practice and Training Scan and Associated OHTAC Recommendations

Patients, particularly in critical care environments, often require multiple intravenous (IV) infusions. Although IV infusions have been identified as a major factor in medication errors and injuries, the range of associated risks and the factors contributing to these risks are not well understood.

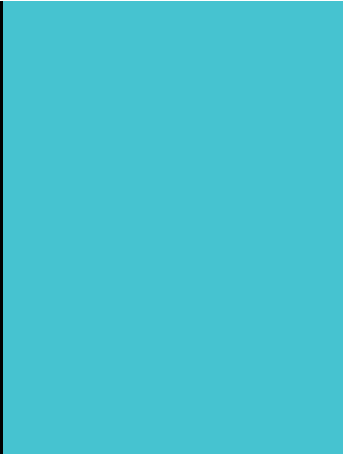
This exploratory study is aimed at understanding multiple IV infusion risks and the degree to which nurses are educated to help mitigate them. The report presents the findings of a field study of 12 hospital clinical units across Ontario, as well as 13 interviews with educators from baccalaureate-level nursing degree programs and postgraduate Critical Care Nursing Certificate programs.

Based on the evidence, OHTAC has made nine draft recommendations that emphasize best practices for the administration of multiple IV infusions. OHTAC's recommendations and the evidence are now posted for [public comment](#) for a period of three weeks.

Please submit comments by April 5, 2012, to OHTAC_Comments@hqontario.ca to ensure that they will be considered in the final report and recommendations.

Final Preliminary Evidence Review and OHTAC Recommendation Posted: Genetic Testing for Dilated Cardiomyopathy

Dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) is a condition where the heart becomes weakened and enlarged, affecting its ability to pump blood efficiently. At least one in 2,500 individuals currently lives with DCM; however, the condition is considered under-diagnosed since



people often remain asymptomatic until serious symptoms arise. DCM is a common cause of heart failure in children and adults. At the request of OHTAC, MAS conducted a Preliminary Evidence Review of the research on the diagnostic accuracy and clinical utility of genetic testing for DCM. The [final review and the OHTAC recommendation](#) are now posted.

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