

Strategy Highlights:

CCIS achieves another major milestone

With 30 hospitals added to the CCIS go-live in mid-December, the CCIS implementation team has now fully completed Phase II implementation. This means that **all Level 3 adult medical/surgical ICUs in Ontario** are now tracking real-time patient data in the CCIS. This achievement was reached on schedule and represents the significant commitment of the participating hospitals, the CCIS implementation and leadership teams and CriteCall.

Phase III planning is now being finalized and is scheduled to begin in early 2008. It includes:

- continuing to work closely with LHINs, LHIN CC Leaders and hospitals to ensure practical analysis and application of the CCIS data to support LHIN and hospital decision-making;
- delivering system upgrades to automate the desired indicator reports and make key changes to improve usability and data quality before new sites are introduced and;
- increasing the number of priority critical care units reporting data into the CCIS (Level 3 and Level 2 Specialty Units include: Paediatric, Neurological, Cardiac Surgery/Cardiovascular, Coronary, Burn Units).

In addition, the CCIS Advisory Committee and Implementation Team are working with the LHIN Critical Care Leaders, frontline providers and LHINs to further develop the CCIS tool and implement enhancements that have greater data collection impact (require more analysis, development & training effort, policy development).

Prepared by the Critical Care Secretariat

Critical Care Nurse Training Fund Call For Applications now available online – deadline January 18, 2008

Guidelines and application forms for the Critical Care Nurse Training Fund are now available online at <http://www.health.gov.on.ca/criticalcare>

Applications are due by January 18, 2008, 5pm EST.

You will recall that in 2006, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care provided a total of 4.5 million dollars to hospitals across the province to aid in the training of nurses who may be new to the practice of critical care. Based on last year's substantial number of applications from hospitals and the successful reporting results, the Ministry has issued this Call for Applications for the next iteration of the Critical Care Nurse Training Fund.

The funding applies to the period between April 1st, 2008 and March 31st, 2009, and includes critical care training completed through an in-house and/or college-based adult and/or paediatric critical care program.

Eligibility applies to:

- hospitals operating adult and/or paediatric critical care units, classified as level 2 or level 3, where critical care training will be acquired between April 1st, 2008 and March 31st, 2009 through an in-house and/or college-based adult and/or paediatric critical care program.

Hospitals may be eligible for full or partial funding for critical care nurse training, depending on the quality of the application and the number of applications received. Over time, the funding criteria will be revised to encourage hospitals to use these funds to educate

nurses in accordance with the provincial Critical Care Nursing Standards, available at

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/critical_care/docs/ccn_stds_rep_01_20070420.pdf

This gradual refinement of the funding criteria will provide hospitals and educational institutions with adequate time to move toward compliance with the Standards.

Hospitals to receive P-CCRT educational materials

In past updates the extramural component of the paediatric Critical Care Response Teams (P-CCRT) has been described. This service can be accessed through CritiCall, (1-800-668-4357) twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week and has been developed in collaboration with CritiCall, ORNGE and the four paediatric academic health sciences centres. Through the service the extramural P-CCRT paediatric intensivist supports the physician caring for the critically ill child with management advice. If a transfer is required, the paediatric intensivist will continue to support the physician even if a bed is not readily available for transfer, while CritiCall locates an appropriate receiving facility and engages ORNGE for transport as required.

An extensive communications and marketing effort is underway to support access to this service for all physicians caring for an urgent or emergent critically ill child. Phone stickers and promotional posters will be sent or delivered with information packages to all emergency departments and paediatric wards in Ontario.

A site visit and/or telephone conversations will complement the materials and then a follow up call will be made to ensure that the posters and stickers are appropriately placed. CritiCall's five Regional Project Managers who each service hospitals within their assigned region, are operationalizing this aspect of the

initiative. In addition, a presentation will be available for download in early January from both CritiCall's and the Ministry's websites. Physician leads at each participating site are also actively educating and promoting the service both internally and externally.

Performance improvement coaching teams in full swing

The Coaching Team program has been in full swing over the fall months, with forty-one site visits having been completed since September.

Congratulations to all the Coaches for their hard work and to the Project Officers who have been to every site visit with their teams. Also thanks to all the sites for being gracious hosts and inviting us into their Critical Care families.

Happy New Year!

The Critical Care Secretariat wishes everyone a happy and healthy new year.

Appreciation is extended to all of the critical care providers, hospitals and LHINs for supporting the Critical Care Strategy throughout 2007 and in so doing, making our health care system safer and more accessible for all Ontarians.

For More Information

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www.health.gov.on.ca/criticalcare or contact:

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