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North East **LHIN**



e-Bulletin

Week of February 20 2009, Volume 3, Number 5

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March 3 -- Ontario Common Assessment of Need (OCAN)

On March 3, the Community Mental Health Common Assessment Project (CMH CAP) will host a one-day conference to showcase the internationally-researched and locally customized tool for the assessment of mental health -- the Ontario Common Assessment of Need (OCAN).

For the first time in Ontario, this mental health assessment process centres on the consumer voice. This is your chance to explore the research behind OCAN.

In the late fall of 2008, the NE LHIN Board of Directors approved a pilot project which would see the implementation of the assessment tool across the NE LHIN. The “Kick-Off”

for this pilot is about to roll out across the North East.

The two international developers of the core tools of OCAN will share their insights and answer your questions on OCAN. Registration is open but limited. A full agenda and speaker profiles will be sent out shortly.

Delta Chelsea Hotel, Toronto

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Featured guest speakers include: **Dr. Mike Slade**, King's College, University of London Reader in Health Services Research and co-author of the CAN-C, the core tool of the OCAN Staff Assessment, and **Professor Thomas Trauer**, University of Melbourne, International leader and researcher in outcome measurement who was instrumental in developing the core tool of the OCAN Consumer Self-assessment.

To register: email: cmhcap@ontario.ca or call 416.314.7365/ 1.866.909.5600 and press “2”

Surge Capacity Management Program Announced

On January 19, 2009 the MOHLTC announced the launch of a new initiative called the Surge Capacity Management Program to help hospitals better manage sudden increases in patient demand for critical care services.

The program is a principled approach to managing surge within hospitals without

compromising patient safety, emergency department wait times or surgical wait times. In collaboration with the NE LHIN, our hospitals will be asked to develop action plans that will:

- Improve patient access to safe and timely critical care services
- Enable them to use alternate human resource strategies, equipment and technology to cover minor surges in capacity
- Enable LHINs hospitals to assist others experiencing larger surges in capacity.

The provincial roll-out of the program will begin in March 2009, with full implementation across the province by March 2010. Hospitals may have received information from the Province on this initiative already or will be in the coming days. The program is being implemented by the Critical Care Secretariat under the Leadership of Dr. Bernard Lawless, Provincial Lead for Critical Care and Trauma.

Questions or concerns about this program should be addressed to:

Julie Trpkovski, Manager of the Critical Care Secretariat at Julie.Trpkovski@Ontario.ca or by phone at 1-416-399-1173.

Connecting people to more health care options – Provincial Announcement

People from all across Ontario can now find health care close to home with the click of a mouse. For the first time, information about local health services is available in a single place: www.ontario.ca/healthcareoptions. Using this site, people can find the nearest walk-in and after-hours clinics, urgent care centres, family health teams, general practitioners

and emergency rooms by typing in their postal codes. The new service is being updated regularly, and will soon be expanded to offer information on all front-line health services in Ontario including Community Care Access Centres, laboratories and long-term care homes. The province is also introducing Health Care Connect, a new program to help people find a family health care provider. Ontarians can call 1-800-445-1822 to register with the program, and those who need care most will be helped first.

 [Read Media Release](#)

Congratulations – GertieMai Muise Honoured

Our very own GertieMai Muise was recently honoured by the Newfoundland Aboriginal Women's Network for her special support and strength in helping other women move forward as part of the Network's violence prevention initiative. As indicated in the attached article, GertieMai has been inspiring others through her words, teachings, songs and friendship.

GertieMai is the Aboriginal Consultant for the NE LHIN. Congratulations GertieMai; your strength and friendship are a great inspiration to your colleagues who are proud to be working with you.

 [Read more](#)

New Junior Aboriginal Health Consultant

Melissa Shigwadja has joined the NE LHIN in the position of Junior Aboriginal Health Consultant. Melissa is a recent honors graduate of Science in Nursing from Laurentian University. She is a Registered Nurse and brings with her clinical experience in obstetrics/maternity, long term care, vascular/thoracic/urology, acute medical, inpatient acute psychiatry and workplace wellness. Melissa has worked with Wikwemikong Nursing Home and Health Centre, Mnaamodzawin Health Services Inc., Comcare Health Services and Total Nursing Care.

Melissa is originally from the Unceded Wikwemikong First Nation. Please join us in welcoming Melissa to the NE LHIN team.

