

Hospital Service Accountability Agreement *Update*

Introduction

This is the second communiqué regarding the discussions on the development of the Hospital Service Accountability Agreement (H-SAA) for 2010-2012.

The H-SAA Steering Committee (H-SAA SC) met for the second time on the 3rd of June. The agenda included further discussion and clarification on the purpose and goals for the process as well as updates from the chairs of several of the sub-groups including the Hospital Annual Planning Submission (HAPS) Guidelines Working Group and the Indicator Working Group.

H-SAA Purpose & Goals

The H-SAA Steering Committee has agreed to approach the H-SAA so that both the process and the document itself deliver an enabling environment for the field. Some specific goals that they will work towards include ensuring that there is alignment between the MLAA and the HSAA process; and that where possible the process should look towards integration of the various service accountability agreements into a single agreement. As a first step towards this the committee will examine the similarities/differences between the H-SAA and M-SAA agreements. The H-SAA SC also agreed to continue to monitor associated issues such as HBAM and the e-Health agenda and discuss these at future meetings.

HAPS Guidelines & Indicator Working Group

Work is proceeding on the HAPS guidelines as well as the indicators. The existing guidelines are at a mature stage and focus on efficiencies. They do not take into account changes such as the introduction of LHINs and current economic pressures. The HAPS Working Group will update the guidelines to ensure congruency with provincial and LHIN priorities such as Wait Times and Emergency Department/Alternate Level of Care. The HSAA SC agreed that the HAPS guidelines would be available for field testing by the end of June and for distribution to the field by the end of July.

The Indicators Working Group will be reviewing the indicators over the next few weeks and submitting any proposed changes.

Hospital Service Accountability Agreement Update

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The H-SAA Steering Committee recognizes that greater clarity is required with regard to funding allocations and is monitoring the situation closely. There is an expectation that more information on funding allocations and planning will be available in July for 2009/10. The Steering Committee further agreed that the HAPS submission date for 2010/12 should be moved back by a month to November 30th, 2009. The H-SAA Committee will be seeking clarity on funding allocations with the MOHLTC.

Going forward, the H-SAA SC will continue to monitor the progress of HAPS funding allocations and keep the field updated with regard to timing (see Current Timelines below).

Finally, the H-SAA SC would like to encourage LHINs and their service providers (including hospitals) to start meeting now to plan together on various future funding scenarios, rather than waiting for the final version of the HAPS guidelines.

Current Timeline Summary for HAPS

Current Date	Activity & Potential Caveats
June 30, 2009	HAPS Guidelines approved for field testing by H-SAA Steering Committee
July 31, 2009	HAPS Guidelines finalized and approved by H-SAA Steering Committee and published
July Onwards	Hospitals start preparing HAPS with internal/external partners and in consultation with the LHINs.
November 30, 2009	Hospitals submit HAPS.

A more detailed timeline for the entire process will be published in July.

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Next Steps

The next meeting of the group will take place on June 15th, and further updates on the progress of the H-SAA SC work will be provided in upcoming communiqués.

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