

WWLHINformation

Waterloo Wellington LHIN



Waterloo Wellington LHIN eNewsletter - December 13th Edition

The WWLHINformation eNewsletter is a bi-weekly update to keep you informed of the latest news, events, and successes in health care across the WWLHIN as we continue working together to build an integrated and sustainable health system for residents in Waterloo Wellington.

As part of the eNewsletter, we are looking for your contributions. Are you looking for a new way to share information or invite the community to health care related events? Send your news and events with links to more information and we'll include it in an upcoming edition.

Please forward WWLHINformation to others who may be interested in local health care news and events. For new readers, please [click here](#) to subscribe. To unsubscribe please send an email to connie.coggan@lhins.on.ca.

Waterloo Wellington Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) Screens Almost 25,000 Women a Year



At the age of 52, Margot McAuliffe was diagnosed with an aggressive form of breast cancer. Nearly five years later — after surgery, chemotherapy and radiation therapy — she's cancer free. And she's an Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) convert.

"The OBSP saved my life. They really did. If I hadn't gone for a mammogram then, I don't know when I would have bothered going or what stage the cancer would have been at when it was finally found," Margot says.

With eight sites available in Waterloo Wellington that provide high-quality breast screening, the OBSP has become more accessible to women age 50 and older. In

Waterloo Wellington more than 23,500 women were screened through OBSP in 2009.

"Most recent stats from 2007/08 indicate we are screening 64% of eligible women in our region and so there are still many women who are not getting screened. By 2020, we aim to be screening 90% of eligible women across Ontario," said Lori Temple, Regional Coordinator, Integrated Screening Programs for the Waterloo Wellington Regional Cancer Program. "That's why stories like Margot's are so important. More women need to understand the benefits of regular screening and the importance of finding breast cancer early."

For more information, [click here](#).

An Integrated Approach to Community-Based Diabetes Care

Residents in Waterloo Region have access to information, counselling, and education sessions to help them manage their diabetes through the Waterloo Region Community Diabetes Program. The program uses an integrated approach, providing care through three Community Health Centres, the Langs Farm Village Association, the Kitchener Downtown Community Health Centre and the Woolwich Community Health Centre, in partnership with Grand River and Cambridge Memorial Hospitals. The program also partners with the Canadian Diabetes Association and the YMCA.

In 2006, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) provided funding for the creation of the Community Diabetes Program in Waterloo Region. The program was established to: increase accessibility by providing care in the community; decrease wait times for services for diabetes patients with low to intermediate care needs; decrease wait times for more complex patients in hospitals; and increase flexibility to help meet the needs of diverse populations.

“Using an integrated approach allows us to have a common curriculum, shared and flexible human resources and a governance structure that provides a big picture view to better identify gaps and improve services,” shared Sharon Rodrigues, Coordinator, Waterloo Region Community Diabetes Program. “If one Centre is experiencing higher volumes, we are able to see their patients in the other centres to reduce wait times and efficiently utilize our resources.”

For more information, [click here](#).

Advancing Quality in Waterloo Wellington’s Long-Term Care Homes



The Waterloo Wellington LHIN is involved in a new quality improvement initiative known as Residents First. This initiative supports long-term care homes in Ontario in providing an environment for their residents that enhances their quality of life. Residents First also facilitates comprehensive and lasting change by strengthening the long-term care sector's capacity for quality improvement.

Residents First is partnership-driven and supported by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Ontario's Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) are leading implementation at the local level. Training is being delivered by experts in quality improvement through the Ontario Health Quality Council (OHQC).

In 2010, Residents First will reach over 100 long-term care homes. An impressive 28 out of 35 Long-Term Care Homes in Waterloo Wellington have signed up for the voluntary initiative.

More details to come!

WWLHIN Rural Health Network

In July 2010, Libby Little, Senior Manager, Health System Design, WWLHIN, assumed the role of Rural Health Care Lead to work with local health service providers and community partners on the implementation of the Rural Health Care Review recommendations. To view the report, please visit our website at www.wwlhin.on.ca

One of the Rural Health Care Review recommendations directs the WWLHIN to “facilitate the establishment of a rural health network”. Libby has been working closely together with local rural health care providers to implement this recommendation. Suzanne Trivers, Executive Director for the Mount Forest Family Health Team (MFFHT), has assumed the role of Chair, WWLHIN Rural Health Network.

The Rural Health Network will start with a small group of representatives with the intent to expand both in terms of

organizational and sector representation, as well as geographic representation. The Network held its first meeting on November 19th.

Making the eConnection to Hospitals - Clinical Connect Update for Health Service Providers

“Provider Portals, like ClinicalConnect, are extremely valuable in consolidating and integrating the many sources of patient information,” said Glenn Holder, Chief Information Officer, WWLHIN. “ClinicalConnect provides up-to-date information on patient visits, lab results, clinical reports, and discharge summaries. The portal enables healthcare professional to incorporate the previously unavailable information into patient care.”

ClinicalConnect is available for use by authorized care providers in Family Health Teams, Community Health Centres, the Waterloo Wellington CCAC and hospitals. Family Health Teams, that participated in the HEALTHeCONNECTIONS project, are early adopters of ClinicalConnect. Health care professionals are able to access their patients’ information from WWLHIN hospitals and the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant (HNHB) hospitals, including Hamilton Health Sciences.

“Physicians are thrilled to be able to view patient history from acute care in real-time. This could not be possible without a tool like ClinicalConnect,” says Glenn.

To find out more about ClinicalConnect go to <http://info.clinicalconnect.ca> and click the “Quick Tour” in the menu. For more information, contact Dale Maw, Senior Manager, eHealth Program, WWLHIN at 519-650-4472, ext. 228 or Dale.Maw@lhins.on.ca.

Happy Holidays!

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The WWLHIN would like to wish you and yours a joyous holiday season. The WWLHINformation eNewsletter will resume in the New Year. The next edition will be sent out on January 10th. Happy Holidays!

