

WWLHINformation

Waterloo Wellington LHIN



Waterloo Wellington LHIN eNewsletter - May 30th, 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, to subscribe or unsubscribe, please send an email to connie.macdonald@lhins.on.ca.

May 19th Champions of Change a great success – and our largest learning event to date!



The WWLHIN hosted our 11th community learning day, Champions of Change, on May 19 at the Delta Hotel and Conference Centre in Guelph. More than **230 participants** attended the event, making it the largest Champions of Change event to date.

Learning sessions throughout the day focused on addressing the social determinants of health and how population health inequities are impacting the sustainability of our health system.

A full barrel of food (158 lbs) for our community was collected thanks to the many individuals who brought donations to Champions of Change. Thank you!

For presentations and speaker bios please visit the Engaging Our

Communities section of the WWLHIN website.

Investing in Upgrades at Local Hospitals

The Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (WWLHIN) is investing in upgrades to local hospitals to support their efforts in providing high quality care to local residents. The upgrades will ensure that hospitals comply with health and safety standards, and offer an efficient and safe environment in which to provide patients the best possible care.

The WWLHIN is supporting infrastructure upgrades at:

- Cambridge Memorial Hospital is receiving \$237,394. At CMH, a few of the projects completed include upgrading the Operating Room electrical system, replacing the fire alarm panel and installing a new chemotherapy preparation room.
- Grand River Hospital is receiving \$500,858. Projects that will be completed at GRH include replacing the boiler and front entrance door at the KW site, and replacing the Freeport Pioneer Terrace roof.
- Groves Memorial Community Hospital is receiving \$186,783. At the Fergus hospital, the funds will be used to upgrade the cooling tower.
- Guelph General Hospital is receiving \$241,836. At GGH, some of the projects include installing automatic door openers in various patient care areas, protective guarding around elevator equipment and a new accessibility ramp at the main entrance to the Medical Centre.
- North Wellington Health Care Corporation is receiving \$360,158. The hospital will use the funding to make renovations in the Ambulatory area and improve wheelchair accessibility.
- St. Joseph's Health Centre is receiving \$186,763. At SJHC, the funds will be used to replace obsolete controls for the Building Automation System and carpeting with vinyl flooring and upgrade lighting to improve efficiencies.
- St. Mary's General Hospital is receiving \$253,354. SMGH will use their HIRF allocation to replace an air handling unit and an aging roof and purchase software that allows for voice annunciation in the elevators.

Home First: Achieving Better Outcomes for Seniors and Reducing ALC

Story by: Leslie Starr-Hemburrow, Janet M. Parks and Susan Bisailon

Like many hospitals, those in the Mississauga Halton Local Health Integration Network (MH LHIN) have used inter-professional collaboration to maximize system processes. Process improvements previously occurring in silos have started crossing hospital programs and systems within and beyond the hospital.

The challenge is that few health-care organizations consider, never mind implement, process improvements that traverse the LHIN. The article discusses an innovation with a unique feature: concentration not only on inter-professional collaboration but on inter-organizational collaboration by professionals and providers throughout the LHIN.

The Home First approach exemplifies what is possible when culture is adapted to necessitate and enable intra- and inter-organizational collaboration and partnerships based on trust and respect. This approach has been spread and sustained successfully across the LHIN, with alternative level of care (ALC) patients being reduced by 50% or greater.

[Click here](#) to read the article.

Adult Cystic Fibrosis Clinic Transfers to St. Mary's

Move will improve continuity of care for patients

St. Mary's General Hospital has welcomed the first of 50 adult patients with cystic fibrosis, whose outpatient care has been transferred from a combined clinic for adult and pediatric CF patients at Grand River Hospital. The two hospitals have worked collaboratively on the voluntary transfer, which is aimed at improving consistency of care for adult patients. Those patients now receive their inpatient care in the Chest Unit at St. Mary's.

The adult clinic was launched in late April at St. Mary's, and will be held twice a month, while the pediatric clinic will continue at Grand River. Adult patients will continue to see the same two physicians and nurse who provided their clinic care at Grand River. As the region's Centre of Excellence in Respiratory care, St. Mary's has the ability to provide the multi-disciplinary expertise which is a principle concept of CF Care, says Dr. Mary Jackson, Director of the Adult CF clinic.

"Having separate adult and pediatric clinics is increasingly the model throughout Canada," Dr. Jackson said. The number of adult patients has risen steadily due to population growth and increased longevity for patients. "Once a pediatric disease, CF is now definitely a part of adult respiratory medicine," Dr. Jackson adds.

The transfer has been approved by the boards of both hospitals, the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network and Cystic Fibrosis Canada.

"This new adult CF clinic at St. Mary's is one important step forward in Canadian CF clinical care, and it is an integral component to turning the corner on our fight," said Maureen Adamson, Chief Executive Officer of Cystic Fibrosis Canada.

Wellington Guelph Drug Strategy Committee Works to Enhance Patient Safety

The Wellington Guelph Drug Strategy Committee in partnership with Region of Waterloo Public Health, and the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health assisted in planning a training opportunity for physicians and pharmacists designed to improve opioid prescribing practices. Sponsored by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) and the Ontario College of Pharmacy, the workshop presented the new practice guideline Canadian Guideline on Safe and Effective Use of Opioids for Chronic Non-Cancer Pain. This guideline and the Ontario workshops aim to assist clinicians to safely and effectively use opioids to manage chronic pain and to maximize patient safety in their practice.

The course took place on April 27th at the Ariss Valley Golf and Country Club and was attended by approximately 100 physicians and pharmacists from the Waterloo Wellington area. Attendees benefited from the expert presentation of the new tools, provided by Dr. Andrea Furlan and Dr. Meldon Kahan. Both Dr. Furlan and Dr. Kahan helped to develop the guideline on the use of opioids for chronic non-cancer pain for Ontario's College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Attendees appreciated the collaborative design of the workshop, which provided opportunities for group discussion between pharmacists and physicians during interactive case studies. Lindsay Klassen, System Coordinator with the Waterloo Wellington Addiction and Mental Health Network provided an orientation to local community resources for those in attendance. This initiative, and others such as the Ontario Government's new Narcotics Safety and Awareness Act, will assist in addressing the significant increase in the use of opioid prescriptions seen in recent years, and associated problems that this has contributed to across the province..

[Click here](#) to view the guideline.

Community Fair for Cancer Care

On Saturday, May 28th the Waterloo Wellington Regional Cancer Program (WWRCP) hosted the Community Fair for Cancer Care with Toronto Maple Leafs hockey hall of famer, Darryl Sittler. Through the event, the WWRCP worked to raise awareness of the importance of cancer prevention by opening the doors to the Grand River Regional Cancer Centre for a look at "behind the scenes", a variety of informational displays and a speaker series including keynote speaker, Darryl Sittler. Almost 50 per cent of cancers can be prevented through healthy eating, exercise and regular cancer screening.

More than 100 community members attended the Community Fair. The event also featured speakers: By Dr. Sophie Wilson, Primary Care Physician, Yael Ogniewicz, Genetics Counsellor, Jacqueline Wells, Registered Dietitian, and Marina Mourtzakis PhD, Department of Kinesiology, UW.

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