

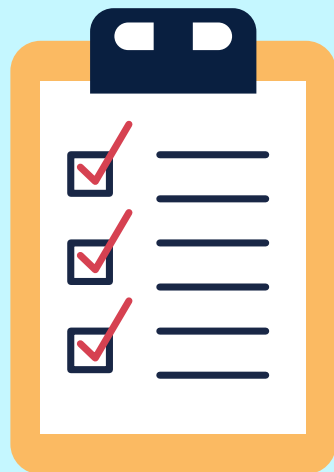


SEPTEMBER 2023

- WELCOME BACK
- UPCOMING EVENTS
- GREAT RIVER OHT WORK UNDERWAY
- OTHER OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR OHT AREA

The Great River Insider

A Newsletter for Primary Care Providers of the Great River Ontario Health Team (GR OHT)



Welcome Back!

Hello everyone and welcome back after a much-needed summer break! We hope you were able to enjoy a safe and relaxing summer with family and friends. We really appreciate the effort many of you have put into the Great River Ontario Health Team (GR OHT) current projects, despite many tight deadlines and ongoing system challenges. In this issue, we will share some exciting events and news about our Ontario Health Team. We hope to see you at one of our events! Until then, we wish you all the best for a healthy, happy fall.

COCKTAIL EVENT - New Medical Facility at DEV Centre

OCTOBER
5
6 to 8 p.m.
DEV Centre
1950 Montreal Rd, Cornwall

A clinic dedicated to Immigration Medical Examinations (IME) will soon be established at the DEV Centre, aiming to facilitate access to the medical assessment processes required by Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). There are also plans for a primary care clinic to be developed. This event is being offered to physicians and NPs to learn about their plan to work with the community and providers. **Please register before September 25th at info@plakett.ca** or connect with them to obtain further information.

TOWN HALL - Primary Care Networking Event with Elected Officials

NOVEMBER
7
6 to 8 p.m.
Lost Villages Brewery
16133 County Rd 36, Long Sault

Join your primary care colleagues for this event sponsored by Vibrant Communities, the United Counties of SDG, and the OMA. Senator Clement will be moderating a discussion with elected officials to explore current challenges in primary care and identify how Federal, Provincial, and Municipal governments can support the physicians and nurse practitioners. Please watch for an email from the OMA or NPAO the week of September 25th to register for both the Advocacy Training and to attend the event.

Project Teams – Great River OHT Work Underway

Over the summer our three project teams have continued to work on the development and refinement of change ideas to improve care for our attributed population and better support the clinicians and staff on the front lines of that care. We are pleased to see projects that will have an impact on patient and provider experience start to take shape.

UPDATE FROM OUR TEAMS:

Building Capacity with Primary Care Providers

CANCER SCREENING EVENT

The first of several public facing events is being planned for October/November (date TBD) at Seaway Valley CHC, to offer access to cancer screening for all eligible people in the Great River OHT region. The focus will be to support unattached persons, but those who are attached will also be welcomed and any testing ordered will be copied to the primary care practitioner, with patient consent. Processes are being designed to ensure that this clinic’s activities will not result in negation for physicians funded via capitated models.



Frail Older Adults and Complex Care Needs



REMOTE CARE MONITORING (RCM)

Bringing together various organizations that offer remote care monitoring programs, this project hopes to expand RCM programs currently available in other OHTs to the Great River OHT and to create a central intake process that can streamline referrals from primary care, community paramedics, social services and hospitals. Remote care monitoring offers a way for a health professional (usually an RN) to virtually manage many clients who use digital means to report symptoms, vital signs and other information. That information then allows for early intervention or support from the nurse, avoiding ER visits and hospitalizations, reducing calls to the family physician/nurse practitioner and enabling safer, earlier hospital discharges and fewer readmissions.

Mental Health, Addictions and Substance Use Health (MHASUH)

ACCESSMHA AND 1CALL1CLICK

The MHASUH Project Team is working with AccessMHA and 1Call1Click to identify mental health services in our OHT region that may not be part of these centralized coordinated access programs. The team is anxiously awaiting the release of a templated data sharing agreement that Ontario Health is finalizing, to allow our OHT to obtain the data relevant to our region and enable us to identify and quantify gaps in services that we know exist but until now, we could not measure as a system. As part of the collaboration with AccessMHA, there will be educational opportunities for primary care providers to gain understanding of how the referral process works through Ocean to AccessMHA for adults 16+ and 1Call1Click for children and youth.



OTHER OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR OHT AREA:



In partnership with 12 hospitals across Champlain including the Cornwall Community Hospital and the Glengarry Memorial Hospital, the **Champlain Endoscopy Central Intake** (ECI) provides a single-entry point for gastrointestinal endoscopy referrals from across the region. This innovative approach will relieve backlog by enhancing patient access and optimizing resources. With a backlog of more than 10,000 cases, the ECI program will re-shape the way we manage FIT+, screening and surveillance referrals, ensuring patients get access to care in a timely and efficient manner. Winchester District Memorial Hospital is expected to join the program in October.

Social Health and Equity Network

The Social Health and Equity Network for Primary Care in Canada seeks to connect health providers interested in addressing health inequities and social determinants of health through the structure and practice of primary care. This website is intended to facilitate building communities of support, education, program development, research and advocacy. If this is of interest, please join a new, exciting space: the **Social Health and Equity Network**. To join, go to the website socialhealthequitynetwork.ca, click “Join” and fill out the form. If you have questions, reach out to gary.bloch@utoronto.ca.



Recruitment of IRCC Panel Physicians

Are you a physician looking for part-time work with a fully trained team and a turnkey operation? Are you interested in international health and supporting newcomers? Consider becoming an Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada Panel Physician, working in the team environment under development at the DEV Centre in Cornwall. For more information, contact info@plakett.ca.



Recruitment of Coroners

The Eastern Region has openings for part-time physicians with an interest in coroner work. There is a need for recruits in the Prescott-Russell region as well as Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry area, including Cornwall. Interested physicians should please contact the Regional Supervising Coroner at Louise.McNaughton-Filion@ontario.ca.