



SEPTEMBER 2025

- UPCOMING EVENTS
- DIGITAL HEALTH PROJECTS
- HEALTH CARE CONNECT WAITLIST CLEARANCE
- RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES
- AND MORE

Kaniatarowanéhne Kaniatarí:io Ata'karitéhtshera Raotinèn:ra

The Great River Insider

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

➔ [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR OCTOBER 1ST PCN DIGITAL HEALTH EVENT](#)

!! NEW LOCATION! * The event will take place at the **Moose Creek Community Centre (1 Munro St)**

Your voice is needed to ensure your practice is informing change, rather than being subjected to it. Large players want to decide for Primary Care—will we let them? **REGISTER NOW** for the “Primary Care Network Digital Health Transformation Event”, taking place on **Wednesday, October 1st, from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m.** Bring your laptop and meet with OntarioMD and Amplify Care to solve your digital pain points.

RSVP: <https://forms.office.com/r/ZuCjTMhyiV> | More information: [draft agenda](#)

New Roster Reconciliation Tool Available in Ontario

By automatically comparing your EMR patient list with the Ministry of Health's latest roster report, this new **Microsoft Excel-based tool** helps:

- **Save Time:** No more manual cross-checking—quickly identify discrepancies between your internal records and the Ministry's list.
- **Reduce Admin Burden:** Simplifies the process of spotting patients who've been removed or are eligible to be re-rostered, allowing staff to focus on patient care instead of paperwork.
- **Protect and Grow Revenue:** Ensures your roster is accurate and up to date, so your clinic receives the correct funding tied to rostered patients.
- **Improve Continuity of Care:** Helps maintain relationships with patients who may have been mistakenly removed, ensuring they continue receiving care from your clinic.



With this tool, clinics can take proactive steps to maintain accurate rosters, support patient care, and optimize compensation, all with minimal effort. Please note that Angela Martin, our Practice Facilitator, is available to support PCN members with this tool. For more information, you can reach her by **email** or at 519-500-9266.

ONTARIO HEALTH EAST HEALTH SYSTEM PARTNERS MEETING



Ontario Health East is holding a virtual Health System Partner Meeting on Thursday, September 25, 2025, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. **Click here to register.**

At this event, spring and summer progress, fall and winter readiness and planning, and the direction forward for the health system will be discussed.

Latest Insights: OAB Feedback & Tali AI Trial Results

- Building on insights from the [2024 Online Appointment Booking \(OAB\) Provider Survey Analysis](#), the PCN has applied for sustainment funding to **support 28 existing licenses and add 49 new licenses** for physicians, nurse practitioners, and allied health providers. To further reduce administrative burden, the PCN is funding a **practice facilitator** to help clinics redesign workflows, ensuring that OAB works seamlessly for patients, providers, and booking staff alike.
- The [2024-25 Tali AI Trial Results](#) are in! The results of our six-week trial are now available in the detailed report. **Seven providers participated**, including six from CHCs and one from an FHO practice, collectively **saving a total of 33 hours and 12 minutes** over the trial period. Many providers started slowly but gradually increased their use as the weeks progressed. Next steps include exploring AI Scribes, AI Assistants, and other tools that can read, code, and file reports automatically, with more details to be shared at the October 1 PCN event.



HEALTH CARE CONNECT WAITLIST CLEARANCE CAN YOU TAKE 5 OR 10?



Through the work of the Primary Care Action Team, led by Dr. Jane Philpott, the government has committed to attaching everyone who was on the Health Care Connect (HCC) waitlist as of January 1, 2025 to primary care by Spring 2026.

To support this effort, the OHT will be asking family physicians and nurse practitioners to consider taking one or 2 families each this year.

In recognition of the important role played by billing physicians in attaching patients to primary care, additional payments are already available (retroactive to July 1):

- **Complex Vulnerable New Patient Fee:** Fee code increased from \$350 to \$500.
- **Mother Newborn New Patient fee (\$350):** Billed when enrolling both an unattached mother and newborn within two weeks of birth or an unattached woman after 30 weeks of pregnancy.
- **Multiple/Newborn Fee (\$150):** In case of multiple births, a physician may bill this code per newborn in addition to the Mother Newborn New Patient Fee code.
- **HCC Upgrade Patient Status (\$500):** If a physician accepts a HCC-referred non-complex/vulnerable patient who then is determined to be more complex than initially determined, the higher fee can be billed.

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

ONTARIO AAA SCREENING PROGRAM

The Ontario government is taking action to protect more people against life-threatening abdominal aortic aneurysms, which often have no symptoms and may go undetected until rupture, by launching a new screening program. The Ontario Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening Program (OAAASP) is the first of its kind in Canada and will help save lives by promoting early detection and prevention of ruptures. [Learn more.](#)

The Champlain PCN Clinical Leads collaborated with the Ottawa OHT to submit a [feedback letter](#) to the AAA Screening program leads.

The PCN would like to hear from members about any concerns, including increased admin burden, additional patient calls, delays in ultrasound access, and misalignment with current screening guidelines. If you would like to share your feedback, please reach out to [Dr. Crabtree](#).



COMPANIES LIMITED



DID YOU KNOW? Loblaw Pharmacies (including Shoppers Drug Mart) now have clinical communications feature available (secure messaging) via PrescribeIT. They are now able to send and receive communications securely to enhance collaboration. This capability is in addition to the existing e-prescribing features available for prescribers, which include receiving and responding to pharmacy-initiated e-renewal requests. [Learn more.](#)



RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES

If you are planning to retire or leave practice within the next 24 months, please let us know. The PCN and OHT are here to support your succession planning and ensure a smooth transition of your patients to a new practice.

Foreign Credential Recognition for Internationally Educated Healthcare Professionals Program

The Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization (OCISO) is helping address healthcare workforce needs through its Foreign Credential Recognition for Internationally Educated Healthcare Professionals program. This initiative provides a wage subsidy of up to \$10,800 for employers who hire internationally educated healthcare professionals. [Learn more.](#)

Join Practice Ready Ontario as an Assessor

Help build capacity in family medicine by joining the practice Ready Ontario program as an assessor. Family physician assessors with significant experience delivering care in rural and remote communities are needed for the 12-week field assessment. [Learn more.](#)

Recruitment Webinars

- [Recruiting Internationally Trained Physicians Eligible for Practice Eligibility Route](#)
September 18 (11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)
- [Recruiting US Trained Physicians](#)
December 4 (11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)