

Executive Report

August 29, 2007

Report from the OHA

2007 Hospital Reports Released

The *2007 Hospital Reports* for acute care, complex continuing care, emergency care and rehabilitation were publicly released on August 24, 2007. The Reports show where progress is being made in patient care services and pinpoint areas for improvement.

The *2007 Hospital Reports* are available through the following websites: Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) website (www.health.gov.on.ca), Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) website (www.oha.com), and the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) website (www.cihi.ca).

The OHA has provided hospitals with an information slide deck and Questions and Answers (Q & As) for each report, on August 22, 2007.

Please direct technical questions about the *2007 Hospital Reports* to Jeanie Lacroix, Manager, Hospital Reports, CIHI, at jlacroix@cihi.ca or 416-544-5376, or to Mary Neill at mneill@cihi.ca or 416-544-5429.

For any non-technical questions, please contact Chris McPherson at cmcpherson@oha.com or 416-205-1305.

AccessON Website Provides Information and Tools on the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act

Ontario's Ministry of Community and Social Services recently launched a new website called AccessON to raise public awareness about accessibility and the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). The website, which can be found at www.AccessON.ca, provides information about the AODA, the status of accessibility standards and other

information related to accessibility. In addition, education materials, including postcards, posters and a pamphlet are available free of charge by emailing accessibility@css.gov.on.ca. Please indicate the desired quantity for each item, your mailing address and contact information.

For further information, contact Melissa Radolli at mradolli@oha.com or 416-205-1322.

Regulation 449/07 Under the Mandatory Blood Testing Act, 2006

On August 25, 2007, Regulation 449/07 under the *Mandatory Blood Testing Act, 2006* (the Act) was published in the *Ontario Gazette*. The Act, which came into force on August 10, 2007, replaces section 22.1 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*, amending the current provisions which set out the process by which certain prescribed individuals can apply to have blood samples taken from another individual to determine if they have been infected with a prescribed disease.

The Regulation, which is now law, sets out the prescribed classes of person who are permitted to apply for analysis of a blood sample under section 2 of the Act. This list includes police officers, fire fighters, paramedics and emergency medical attendants (as defined in the *Ambulance Act*), paramedic students engaged in field training, and members of the College of Nurses of Ontario.

The Regulation also details the contents of the application, application report, and physician's report. In addition, the process for requesting a voluntary blood sample and the procedures for taking a blood sample pursuant to an order by the Consent and Capacity Board, are set out.

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Report from the OHA (continued)

The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCSCS) has created a number of Template Forms which are available on the Ministry website at www.mcscs.jus.gov.ca, under *Mandatory Blood Testing*. A copy of the regulation can be found at www.e-laws.gov.on.ca.

For further information, contact Melissa Radolli at mradolli@oha.com or 416-205-1322.

Emergency Department Staffing Reference Guide

An *Emergency Department Staffing Reference Guide* highlighting “best practices” (Version 1) was released by the MOHLTC and HealthForceOntario to assist hospitals in considering Emergency Department (ED) physician staffing from a comprehensive, strategic and sustainable perspective. Specifically, the guide will help ED Chiefs, CEOs and other hospital leaders and LHINs understand and access government programs and incentives that may assist with ED staffing challenges at both ED Alternate Funding Agreement (AFA) and Fee-For-Service (FFS) hospitals, and promote the sharing of ED best practices. The guide was developed with input from ED physicians, hospital administrators and physician leaders, and will be updated as new initiatives are introduced. The ED Staffing Guide is available on OHA’s Website at www.oha.com, under “ED Summer Coverage”.

For further information, contact Heather Stewart at hstewart@oha.com or 416-205-1321. Please direct any feedback on this guide to emerg@healthforceontario.ca.



Register Early and Save

OHA HealthAchieve2007 will take place on November 5, 6, and 7, 2007 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. By booking before **Friday, September 14, 2007**, delegates can take advantage of the early registration discount and save \$100. Register online at www.ohahealthachieve.com.

Book Hotel Accommodations for OHA HealthAchieve2007

Book your accommodations for OHA HealthAchieve early to ensure your choice of hotel during your stay in Toronto! When making hotel reservations, please identify yourself as a delegate attending OHA HealthAchieve2007 in order to qualify for the special hotel rates.

For further information regarding registration and hotel accommodations, contact healthachieve@oha.com or 416-205-1361 or 416-205-1362.

OHA HealthAchieve is Going Green

Given the large volume of waste a show the size of OHA HealthAchieve can produce, the OHA is doing its part this year for a cleaner, healthier environment by holding a “zero waste event” – practically eliminating waste from going to a landfill site following the convention. With global warming a growing concern, the OHA recognizes the environmental benefits to going “green” and is doing its share in being a good corporate citizen.

The recycling of waste materials saves trees, fuel, water, and energy and reduces landfill space. The zero waste event will capture valuable “resources” and with the help of a waste management contractor, Turtle Island Recycling, will find a recycling market for them.

OHA HealthAchieve2007 Announces a New Keynote Speaker

OHA HealthAchieve2007 is pleased to announce a new addition to its outstanding line-up of speakers. **Frank McKenna** will be the keynote speaker at the Financial Management session on Tuesday, November 6, 2007. Frank McKenna, former Premier of New Brunswick, is one of Canada’s most respected public figures. He has achieved noteworthy success as a lawyer, politician and businessman. Mr. McKenna has also served as Canadian Ambassador to the United States.

Mr. McKenna is now Deputy Chair of TD Bank Financial Group (TDBFG), responsible for supporting the Bank in its customer acquisition strategy. In addition, he is representing TDBFG as it works to expand its North American presence as one of the ten largest banks (as measured by market capitalization).

Report on Health Care

Shirlee Sharkey Named Finalist in Canada's Most Prestigious Business Award

Shirlee Sharkey, President and CEO of Saint Elizabeth Health Care (SEHC), has been selected as a finalist in the *2007 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards*. Founded by Ernst & Young, the Award celebrates great entrepreneurs who have demonstrated excellence and extraordinary success in areas such as company development, financial performance and risk taking.

As President and CEO since 1992, Ms. Sharkey has provided progressive, visionary leadership for SEHC, enabling the organization to evolve first as a major home care provider in Ontario, and then expand beyond client care to empower and support families, communities and health systems through consultation, knowledge sharing and applied research. Today, the SEHC is an internationally-renowned leader in home and community care, known for its social capital, strong financial performance and track record of innovation.

Image-Guided Technology Makes Sinus Surgery Safer

An advanced image-guided system acquired by York Central Hospital (YCH) is making sinus surgery safer for patients. The new LandmarX is one of only a few available in Canada and has been used to help patients with procedures such as cosmetic, plastic and reconstructive surgery for benign and cancerous tumors of the sinuses.

Through real-time imaging feedback of the patient's internal anatomy, the surgeon is able to zero-in to treat tumors and lesions, drain inflamed sinuses, while avoiding damage to the surrounding tissue or critical areas. Such minimally invasive surgery lowers the risk of complications to the patient and decreases potentially serious complications which can occur from sinus surgery in general. The image-guided system allows surgeons to operate with increased accuracy and safety.

Pre-Election Document Focuses on Mental Health and Addiction

A partnership of provincial mental health and addictions organizations that includes Addictions Ontario, the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Ontario, The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) and The Ontario Federation of Community Mental Health and Addiction Programs (OFCMHAP), has highlighted mental health and addiction as a key focus for health care in the coming years.

Ontario Election 2007: Focus on Addiction and Mental Health urges provincial leaders to improve access to community-based mental health and addiction services, target the harms of alcohol and other drugs through a Provincial Drug Strategy, and invest in housing, consumer initiatives and social supports. *Ontario Election 2007: Focus on Addiction and Mental Health* has been distributed to all political parties and MPPs, and is now available to the general public. For more information and to download a copy, visit www.camh.net under "Influencing Policy".

Cancer Care Strengthened For Ottawa Families

Cancer care in Ottawa and surrounding areas continues to improve through the government's \$1.2 million investment to support the operation of a new MRI machine at The Ottawa Hospital. The MRI is expected to be operational in March 2008 and will provide approximately 4,500 additional scans annually to its patients.

The government is also supporting the construction of a new mobile radiation unit at The Ottawa Hospital with a \$5.2 million investment. When completed, the mobile unit will provide radiation therapy to 400 patients per year in the Ottawa area.

Executive Announcements

Michael O'Keefe was appointed as Interim President and Chief Executive Officer at Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Maurice Sanders of Four Counties Health Services retires after 43 years of family practice in a rural setting.

Report from Queen's Park

Government Transforming Community Living to Help Seniors Live Independently at Home

The government is launching an Aging at Home Strategy that will transform community health care services so that seniors can live healthy, independent and longer lives in their own homes. As part of a three-year \$700 million strategy, Ontario's 14 LHINs will lead an exciting initiative that will help provide more equitable access to health care by matching the needs of the local senior population with the appropriate support services. These services could include enhanced home care and community support services like meals, transportation, shopping, snow shoveling, friendly home calling, adult day programs, homemaking services and caregiver supports, and will offer new possibilities for Ontario's culturally diverse populations and other community-level organizations like service clubs and groups of seniors to help serve themselves.

The \$700 million in funds will include: \$3,000,000 for First-Year Planning for LHINs; \$40,000,000 for an Assistive Devices Program Funding Increase (mobility aids); \$66,000,000 for Provincial Priorities; and, \$593,000,000 for Allocations to LHINs. The investment has been designed with a historic new patient-centred funding model that recognizes population growth and promotes equitable access to services across Ontario based on the actual health needs of the population. Funding for enhanced services will flow to the LHINs in April 2008.

Additional details, including a LHIN-by-LHIN allocation summary, can be found on the MOHLTC website at www.health.gov.on.ca.

Government Continues To Strengthen Public Health In Ontario

The government is improving educational opportunities for public health professionals by providing a \$200,000 grant to Queen's University to plan for a new School of Public Health. The planned school is intended to provide programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels in public health and related disciplines. It would also support community public health organizations and link with provincial, federal and international public health agencies and non-government organizations. The School will focus on public health research, education, training and practice. In Canada, most public health teaching is carried out by departments within faculties of medicine or nursing.

Review of Staffing and Care Standards for LTC Homes

In moving forward with the legislative process set out by the *Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007* (the Act), which received Royal Assent on June 4, 2007, the Ministry is looking to develop regulations governing staffing and care standards in the homes. Although the act is not yet in force, in order to support further policy considerations, the Ministry has decided as a first step, to engage an impartial facilitator to solicit stakeholder and expert views and provide advice on current research and practice concerning staffing standards. Shirlee Sharkey, President and CEO of Saint Elizabeth Health Care, has been chosen to conduct the review. Susan Paetkau, Director of Health Program Policy and Standards Branch, is the Ministry lead for the development of regulations under the Act, and will be working with Ms. Sharkey in the coming days to finalize the review process and facilitate the project.



OHA Conferences

Essentials Certificate in Health Care
Governance
September 14, 2007
Delta London Armouries Hotel, London

Hospital governance has become an increasingly important issue among the general public, the media, and patients alike. As part of its commitment to leading excellence in governance throughout the health care sector, the OHA is offering a one-day certificate program for new and prospective trustees. This program is designed to help delegates strengthen their leadership skills and orient them to the important role played by trustees of a hospital or health care organization. Topics covered throughout the day will focus on increasing delegates' understanding of health care governance, and the challenges and opportunities inherent in the complexities of hospital operations. The program will help delegates identify the questions they need to ask in their organizations to ensure that they have the necessary information to fulfill their role effectively.

For further information, contact Josie Mazzola at jmazzola@oha.com or 416-205-1356.

Region 4 Annual Meeting and Conference
September 20 & 21, 2007
Niagara Falls

New and exciting changes have been made to the format of the OHA's Annual Region 4 Educational Conference. With even more time dedicated to discussion and networking throughout the sessions, delegates will have an unprecedented opportunity to work together with their colleagues and identify the challenges facing their hospitals and best practice solutions. Session topics have been tailored on the basis of feedback gathered from Region 4 members, who identified governance and community engagement, LHINs, alternate-levels-of-care (ALC) issues, and e-Health strategies as the key concerns facing their region and communities. The conference will also feature a poster display showcasing innovation and best practices in health care.

For further information, contact Joanne Grzywina at jgrzywina@oha.com or 416-205-1341.

Aboriginal Health Care Conference: Building
Collaborative Partnerships for Health
Prosperity
September 25, 26 & 27, 2007
Thunder Bay

Over the past few years, public awareness and understanding of the importance of blending traditional healings and contemporary medicine into the provision of health care for Aboriginal peoples has improved. This in-depth, multi-stakeholder conference will highlight opportunities and success stories of integration and coordination among providers of health care in the north.

This year's event will highlight human resources planning and skills development, cultural sensitivity training for caregivers, updates on current policy directions, a live telemedicine demonstration, patient and child safety, and storytelling circles hosted by Native Elders. The closing keynote speaker will be award-winning Aboriginal singer-songwriter, Susan Aglukark. The conference will also feature a poster display showcasing innovation and best practices in health care.

For further information, contact Joanne Grzywina at jgrzywina@oha.com or 416-205-1341.

Energy Monitoring, Targeting and Reporting: A
New Way of Managing Health Care
September 27, 2007 (Full Day) & September
28, 2007 (Morning only)
CN Tower, Toronto

The OHA, in conjunction with Enbridge Gas Distribution and Union Gas, is pleased to present a new expanded version of *Energy Monitoring, Targeting and Reporting: A New Way of Managing Health Care (MT&R)*. MT&R is a powerful technique for managing the consumption of energy downward. It involves ongoing analysis of energy use in view of the key consumption drivers, such as weather and activity indicators, and is the basis for integrating energy efficiency into an organization's management structure. In this two-day, highly interactive and hands-on workshop, participants will gain working knowledge of the principles and analysis methods, as well as the practical skills needed to implement MT&R in their organization.

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OHA Conferences (continued)

The knowledge offered through this workshop will enable you to make reasoned choices among the various commercial energy information management tools available in the market.

For further information, contact Marisa Bavaro at mbavaro@oha.com or 416-205-1309.

Region 2 Annual Meeting and Conference Achieving Excellence through Leadership and Change: Strategies for Success October 11 & 12, 2007 Ottawa

Change is constant in today's health care environment. Health care workers face increasing pressures. Hospital boards must build new relationships with their LHINs and meet new accountability challenges and responsibilities with Hospital Service Accountability Agreements (HSAA) and patient safety and quality reporting requirements. Recognizing these current challenges, this year's conference will feature governance and community engagement discussion, hospital and trustee breakout sessions, and an update on Ontario's LHINs.

Guest speakers include Hugh MacLeod, Associate Deputy Minister, MOHLTC and Chris Edgelow, Sundance Consulting Inc. The conference will also feature a poster display showcasing innovation and best practices in health care.

For further information, contact Joanne Grzywna at jgrzywna@oha.com or 416-205-1341.

Incident Management System (IMS) for Health Care Facilities October 22, 23 & 24, 2007 CN Tower, Toronto

This course is geared toward hospital staff directly involved in the development and operations of emergency management planning and procedures within their organization. It will be of interest to individuals with direct responsibility for safety and security and emergency procedures, including risk managers, senior administrators, critical care providers, emergency department staff and clinical educators.

For further information, contact Marisa Bavaro at mbavaro@oha.com or 416-205-1309.



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