

Executive Report

June 27, 2007

Report from the OHA

Coroner's Report from Marskell Inquest Now Available

The Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) has received a copy of the Verdict of Coroner's Jury and its recommendations following the inquest into the death of **John Allen Marskell**. The report deals with the issue of sharing health information between hospital staff and the health care unit at detention centres.

Although the Coroner's jury recommendations are not legally binding, the OHA recommends that they be reviewed and considered. A full copy of the verdict is posted on the OHA's website (www.oha.com) under "Programs - Patient Safety Support Services - Coroners Reports - Newly Posted" for hospital review and consideration, as appropriate. For further information, contact **June Barrette** at jbarrette@oha.com or 416-205-1316.

IPC Brochure on Privacy and Mobile Devices Now Available

On June 14, 2007 Ontario's Information and Privacy Commissioner (IPC) published a brochure outlining suggested best practices for securing mobile devices such as laptops, personal digital assistants and cell phones, and protecting the information carried out of the workplace on them. The brochure outlines steps individuals can take before they leave the work place, while they are out, and when they have completed their work. The brochure also includes a checklist for quick reference. A copy of the brochure is available online at the IPC's website, www.ipc.on.ca. For further information, contact **Melissa Radolli** at mradolli@oha.com or 416-205-1322.

2007 OHA Executive Golf Tournament

Southlake Regional Health Centre is pleased to host the 2007 OHA Executive Golf Tournament on August 8, 2007 at the

exclusive The Club at Bond Head golf course, located north of Toronto.

Given the popularity of the event and that it is consistently sold-out, those interested should register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Requests will be honoured on a first-come, first-served basis. To guarantee your participation, receipt of your registration form accompanied by full payment (\$300 per OHA Member, \$325 per non-OHA member) is required. Registration forms are available by contacting **Terry Kuula** at 905-895-4521, ext. 2260 or **Bonnie Yetman** at 905-895-4521, ext. 2581

 OHA HealthAchieve2007

Register Early and Save

OHA HealthAchieve2007 will take place on November 5, 6, and 7, 2007 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. By booking early, 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 to qualify for special hotel rates. For more information regarding registration and hotel accommodations, call 416-205-1361 or 416-205-1362, or email healthachieve@oha.com.

Report on Health Care

Study Looks at Hospital Activity During 2003 SARS Outbreak

A new study by the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES) shows that restrictions on non-urgent hospital use during the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) outbreak in 2003 led to only modest decreases in overall elective hospital admissions and briefly affected admissions for some potentially seriously ill patients.

The study determined rates of hospital admissions, emergency department and outpatient visits, diagnostic testing, and drug prescribing within the Greater Toronto Area, and compared them with other regions in Ontario (Ottawa and London) that were not subject to the restrictions. This was done for the time periods before SARS (April 1, 2001 to March 14, 2003), in the early phase of SARS restrictions (March 15 to May 14, 2003), and in the late phase (May 15 to July 14, 2003).

The findings suggest that restrictions on non-urgent hospital use during SARS resulted in only a modest decrease in the rate of elective admissions, while having had some unintended consequences on urgent services.

The study, "Effect of widespread restrictions on the use of hospital services during an outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome," is in the June 19, 2007 issue of the *Canadian Medical Association Journal* (CMAJ).

The Credit Valley Hospital Moves Forward with Redevelopment Project

The Credit Valley Hospital's Phase II Redevelopment Project reached a significant milestone earlier this spring when it released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for project teams to finance and build the hospital's new addition and expansion.

This is the first step in selecting a project lead for the 270,000 square-foot expansion that will include a four-storey inpatient unit and a two-storey/three-level addition.

Once complete, the state-of-the-art facility will house additional space for complex continuing care, palliative care, surgical oncology, paediatrics, obstetrics, rehabilitation, inpatient and outpatient physiotherapy, mental health START program, outpatient perinatal, labour and delivery, laboratory, endoscopy, and additional operating room and procedure room facilities.

Infrastructure Ontario will work with The Credit Valley Hospital

to redevelop the hospital, which will remain publicly owned, publicly controlled and publicly accountable.

Health Council of Canada Releases Wait Times Report

On June 26, 2007, the Health Council of Canada released its wait times report, noting that while there has been significant progress made to improve and manage centralized information on wait times for targeted health care procedures, the data needed to see changes over time and to compare wait times on a national level are not available from all jurisdictions.

The report "Wading through Wait Times: What Do Meaningful Reductions and Guarantees Mean?" reviews progress by provinces and territories in reducing wait times for non-emergency care from a patient's perspective and is available online at www.healthcouncilcanada.ca.

Canadian and Kenyan Researchers Collaborate to Fight Child Obesity

A Canadian and Kenyan team of health researchers met face-to-face for the first time at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) in Ottawa from June 21 to 24, 2007 to lay the groundwork for a new and innovative international research collaboration in the area of child obesity.

The Kenyan International Development Study - Canadian Activity Needs (KIDS-CAN) Research Alliance, funded by a Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) grant, was established so that obesity, physical activity and nutrition researchers in Canada and Kenya can look at the cultural differences contributing to daily physical activity and eating behaviours. Kenya is a country known internationally for remarkable active transportation practices and endurance athlete success. Childhood obesity in Canada is significant, steadily increasing and likely precipitated by transitions in physical activity and eating behaviours over the past 20-50 years. Similarly, Kenya is at risk for population-level nutrition and physical activity transitions as the country becomes more economically independent and begins to adopt North American behaviours and lifestyles.

Executive Announcements

The Chatham-Kent Health Alliance has three new board chairs for each of its hospital sites. The new board chairs are: **Kurtina Hammerlein**, Sydenham District Hospital; **Shirley Mihalco**, St. Joseph's Hospital; and, **Jennifer Wilson**, Public General Hospital.

The Chatham-Kent Health Alliance is also pleased to welcome **Dr. Ramin Safakish** to its Department of Anaesthesia.

Jerome Quenneville, President and CEO of the Wellington Health Care Alliance has announced the appointment of **Ms. Debra Harris** as Vice President – Clinical Services, effective July 3, 2007.

CHEO has welcomed **Dr. Mark Tremblay** to its Childhood Obesity Research team.

Len Yauk retired as the founding Chair of West Parry Sound Health Centre's Board during the organization's Annual General Meeting in June.

Dr. Barry McLellan has been named President and CEO of Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, effective September 17, 2007.

Report from Queen's Park

Ontarians Are Getting Improved Access to Physicians

Last week, Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care **George Smitherman** and Ontario Medical Association (OMA) President **Dr. Janice Willett** reported that since 2003, Ontarians have experienced increased access to family physicians. Based on independent survey data and data from Statistics Canada, they said that the number of Ontarians with regular access to a family doctor has increased by 500,000. The increase is reportedly the result of many factors, including:

- Family physicians working longer hours and accepting new patients;
- 150 Family Health Teams introduced since 2003;
- An increase in the supply of family physicians due, in part, to an expansion of the province's International Medical Graduate program and efforts to attract and retain physicians; and
- Incentives available to primary care physicians in all models to encourage the enrolment of patients that formerly did not have a family physician.

In September 2006, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) and the OMA formed a joint working group to understand the size, scope, distribution, and depth of unattached patients in Ontario and to focus joint efforts on developing strategies to reduce the number of Ontarians without a family physician. They are continuing their work together with priority being given to increasing access for Ontarians who are most in need, such as older citizens and those with chronic diseases.

MOHLTC Launches New HIV Testing Program

The MOHLTC is launching a new HIV testing program – the first of its-kind in Canada – that will offer free, on-site testing that determines whether or not an individual has developed HIV as well as 24 new anonymous testing sites with an emphasis on northern and rural communities. The new HIV testing sites will focus on providing equitable access across the province and is expected to begin this fall. The point-of-care HIV testing program will be available in designated anonymous HIV testing sites, sexually transmitted infections clinics and community health centres around the province.



OHA Conferences

Annual OHA/OHIMA Health Information Management Conference September 12, 2007 InterContinental Toronto Centre 225 Front St. W., Toronto

The OHA, in conjunction with the Ontario Health Information Management Association (OHIMA), is pleased to present the annual conference for Health Information Management Professionals. This year's program will focus on a number of key issues, including:

- The future role of Health Information Management professionals
- Standards: Where are we now and what is ahead?
- Innovative approaches to facilitate decision-making
- Continuity of care from Health Information Management perspectives

Participants will have the opportunity to network, listen to presentations, and take part in dynamic question and answer periods. **Peggy Grall**, The Change Coach, will kick off the day with a keynote presentation entitled "Leading Change...and Living to Tell About it!" The day will end with a panel on continuity of care from Community Care Access Centres (CCACs), Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs), hospitals and physicians. For further information, contact Sara Simone at ssimone@oha.com or 416-205-1314.

Healthy Hospitals: Beyond Measurement, Toward Integration September 14, 2007 InterContinental Toronto Centre 225 Front St. W., Toronto

Are your employees engaged? Are they satisfied that their employer cares about the quality of work life and organizational culture? As an employer looking for answers to these questions, it is important to carefully consider exactly what it is you wish to measure. Subsequently, how do you make the most impact once you obtain those measures? Join us to learn about the tools and resources you can use when determining what it is your organization should be measuring and how this can be accomplished.

Participants will hear success stories from hospitals that have used the Healthy Hospital Employee Survey with the OHA's partner, the Brock Workplace Health Research Laboratory, how

these organizations implemented their specific action plans, and the results they have observed following implementation of their targeted actions. For further information, contact Sara Simone at ssimone@oha.com or 416-205-1314.

OHA Mental Health Assessment Tools Conference September 14, 2007 Holiday Inn on King 370 King St. W., Toronto

This exciting conference will focus on the Ontario Mental Health Reporting System (OHMRS), the RAI-Mental Health assessment tool, best practice examples from several organizations, and the Camberwell Assessment of Need and New Research. Both the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) and the Ontario Joint Policy and Planning Committee (JPPC) will update participants on relevant issues. The conference will end with group discussion and an opportunity to ask questions of today's mental health experts. The conference will be chaired by **Dr. Edgardo Perez**, Homewood Corporation. Confirmed speakers are: **Brenda Antliff**, Ministry of Health and Long Term Care; **Dr. John Hirdes**, University of Waterloo; **Lezlee Cribb**, Canadian Institute for Health Information, and many more. For further information, contact Lina Pallotta at lpallotta@oha.com or 416-205-1357.

Leading Management Through Exemplary Leadership Level I Course September 24, 25 & 26, 2007 Change of venue - Ontario Hospital Association 200 Front St. W., Suite 2800

Ontario's health care system is currently in a period of transition and integration, and leaders must know how to motivate and inspire staff. This course will outline the latest thinking on how leaders can delegate, organize, guide and monitor workflow, and make more effective decisions through lectures and group discussions. The course's lessons will lead to practical steps for the participant to follow in developing systemized approaches for their management styles. For further information, contact **Marisa Bavaro** at mbavaro@oha.com or 416-205-1309.

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OHA Conferences (continued)

Correspondence Course in Environmental Services Level I and Level II

October 1, 2007 to March 2008

This program has been developed by the OHA in cooperation with the Ontario Healthcare Housekeepers' Association Inc. (OHHA). The primary goal of this certificate program is to consolidate and extend the management skills and technical knowledge required by those persons charged with the responsibility of administering all aspects of environmental services within the health care facility. The program commences with a home study component consisting of nine correspondence units relating to the technical aspects of environmental services. The program concludes with a three-day interactive management training program (intramural) in Toronto. For further information, contact Marisa Bavaro at mbavaro@oha.com or 416-205-1309.

Region 5 Annual Meeting and Educational Conference - Moving Health Care Forward in Times of Change: Sharing Expertise and Leading Practices

October 2 & 3, 2007

Stratford

The OHA Region 5 conference will provide an excellent forum to learn and discuss the opportunities and challenges facing health care today. Improving patient care and efficiencies, customer service, quality and outcomes using electronic information systems play an important role in our health care system. Building on these themes, this conference will cover: e-Health, order sets, leadership and good governance, an update on Ontario's LHINs, and current challenges and strategies for dealing with alternate-level-of-care (ALC) patients. This event will also feature a breakfast for hospital CEOs and an open discussion forum for all Region 5 members to discuss current health care issues, challenges and solutions in southwestern Ontario. For further information, contact Joanne Grzywina at jgrzywina@oha.com or 416-205-1341.

OHA Region 2 Annual Meeting and Educational Conference

Achieving Excellence through Leadership and Change: Strategies for Success

October 11 & 12, 2007

Ottawa

In today's health care environment, change is constant. Health care workers face increasing pressures. Boards face new accountability challenges and responsibilities related to Hospital Accountability Agreements, new patient safety and quality reporting requirements, and new relationships with LHINs. Recognizing these current challenges, this year's conference will highlight ways in which performance improvement methodologies, such as Lean and Six Sigma, can improve the face of modern health care delivery. Additional conference topics include: hospital board, medical and community relationships; guiding change and building leadership capacity, and an update on Ontario's LHINs. Conference keynote speaker Chris Edgelow, Sundance Consulting Inc., will address leadership and ways for guiding change. For further information, contact Joanne Grzywina at jgrzywina@oha.com or 416-205-1341.

Certificate for Implementing the Guide to Good Governance

Regional Programs for Fall, 2007

This one-day certificate program will give participants a deeper understanding of the factors influencing good governance. Participants will identify areas for improving the functioning of their boards and learn about creating a board governance development plan. This program will be particularly beneficial if the Board Chair attends with the Chair of the Governance Committee and the Corporate Secretary/administrative support to the board. Other topics include an overview of effective governance, discussion of board successes, legal aspects of governance practices, and improving board performance. Program dates and locations include: **Windsor, September 25; Timmins, September 28; Thunder Bay, October 26; Sudbury, November 23; Toronto, December 7.** For further information, contact Josie Mazzola at jmazzola@oha.com or 416-205-1356.



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