

Executive Report

April 2, 2008

Report from the OHA

Revised Protocols for Influenza, Rubella and Scabies Now Available

The Communicable Diseases Surveillance Protocols Committee (CDSPC) is a collaborative initiative between the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) and its member hospitals, the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC). Committee membership includes physicians and nurses with expertise in infectious diseases, as well as specialists in occupational health, microbiology and public health. The CDSPC's mandate is to develop communicable diseases surveillance protocols (in accordance with Regulation 965, Section 4 of the *Public Hospitals Act*) that apply to all persons carrying out activities within hospitals.

The protocols are reviewed every two years and revisions are based on current scientific and medical knowledge to provide direction in preventing the transmission of disease among health care workers. The protocols have been approved by the OHA, the OMA, the Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC) and the Minister of Health.

On March 24, 2008, the three protocols were sent electronically to occupational health and safety contacts as well as OHA Safety Group participants. You can find the protocols on the OHA website at www.oha.com, under "Programs - Health and Safety - Communicable Diseases Surveillance Protocols - January 2008." For further information, contact Terry Siriska at 416-205-1397 or tsiriska@oha.com.

Hospitals Remain Responsible Stewards of Taxpayer Money

On March 31, 2008, the Ontario Ministry of Finance released its twelfth *Public Sector Salary Disclosure* (PSSD) list. For the twelfth year in a row, Ontario's hospitals sector ranked ninth out of nine broader public sector employers in terms of

percentage increases, demonstrating that hospitals continue to be responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars while still providing first-class patient care.

According to G.P. Murray Research Limited, when the *Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act* was first introduced in 1996, the total number of hospital employees listed in the PSSD was 838, with a pay packet of \$119.5 million dollars. In 2007, the total number of hospital employees listed was 4177, with a pay packet of \$634 million. This is an increase of 398.4% in 12 years, which is considerably lower than those seen in other sectors (municipal sector: 2,516.9%; college sector: 1,812.8% and hydro sector: 1,650.3%).

This independent analysis suggests that compensation levels for Ontario's hospital leaders continue to be appropriate and reasonable in very competitive national and international labour markets. For further information, contact Christopher McPherson at 416-205-1305 or cmcpherson@oha.com.

Just Clean Your Hands Program Training Offered Across Ontario

The OHA is partnering with the MOHLTC to deliver train-the-trainer sessions on the components of the *Just Clean Your Hands* program. To date, three successful sessions have been offered across the province. These sessions allow hospital teams to explore how the *Just Clean Your Hands* program can be used to implement a hand hygiene program in their own hospital or how elements of the program can be used to enhance existing hand hygiene campaigns. It is strongly recommended that a multidisciplinary group attend the training session who will be able to cover the roles of trainer, implementation coordinator, and observer. For further information about the training session or to discuss who should attend the session from your hospital, contact Liz McCreight, MOHLTC at liz.mccreight@ontario.ca or Karen Sequeira, OHA at 416-205-1328 or ksequeira@oha.com.

Report on Health Care

Cancer Care Gets an \$11 Million Boost

One of Ottawa's leading philanthropists, Dan Greenberg and his family, recently donated \$11 million in support of cancer care in eastern Ontario. This significant donation will benefit cancer care across the region as it is shared by two cancer champions. Nine million dollars was allocated to Queensway Carleton Hospital towards its expansion to several cancer care programs and in support of the construction of a new cancer centre scheduled to open in late 2009. Two million dollars will go to the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation in support of their vision for cancer programs throughout eastern Ontario.

This donation is the largest individual donation ever received by either the Queensway Carleton Hospital or the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation. Queensway Carleton Hospital announced that the new cancer centre will be named *The Irving Greenberg Family Cancer Centre* and will be a partner site of *The Ottawa Hospital Regional Cancer Program*.

Report Features World Firsts and Major Medical Breakthroughs

The Association of Canadian Academic Healthcare Organizations (ACAHO), the national voice of teaching hospitals, regional health authorities and their research institutes (research hospitals) has released a report entitled, *Eureka! World First Discoveries and Other Major Medical Breakthroughs in ACAHO Member Institutions*, which identifies over 100 of the world's first discoveries and major medical breakthroughs.

The report focuses on the essential role of Canada's research hospitals in creating the knowledge that comes from investments in health research. As a result, many world-first discoveries have revolutionized the way in which cost-effective, quality health services are delivered to Canadians and the rest of the world.

It is the second of three reports focused on the role and contributions of Canada's research hospitals to science and technology. The first report was released in November 2007 entitled, *Moving at the Speed of Discovery: From Bench to Bedside to Business*. The final report, *From Microscope to Marketplace: Spin-Off Companies from ACAHO Member Institutions*, will be published in April 2008.

Cambridge Textbook of Bioethics Now Available

The *Cambridge Textbook of Bioethics* has just been published. The Editor-in-Chief is Dr. Peter A. Singer, Director Emeritus of the University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics (currently with the McLaughlin-Rotman Centre for Global Health, University Health Network and University of Toronto). The textbook was written to support improvements in the ethical quality of care for patients and can serve as a key resource for those interested in bioethics including hospital executive teams, ethics committee members and directors.

With over 100 co-authors, 65 chapters, and 550 pages, the textbook includes sections on information problems (like consent and truth telling), end-of-life care, pregnant women and children, genetics and biotechnology, research ethics, health systems and institutions, using clinical ethics to make an impact in health care, global health ethics, religious and cultural perspectives in bioethics, and specialty bioethics. The "Health Systems and Institutions" section includes chapters on organizational ethics, priority setting, disclosure, conflict of interest in health professional education, public health ethics, emergency and disaster scenarios, rural health care ethics, and community health care ethics.

The chapters are written to be clinically-oriented and practical, and include case discussions; ethical, legal, and policy aspects; exploration of related empirical research; and end with the resolution of the cases introduced at the beginning of the chapter. More information about the book is available at <http://www.cambridge.org/catalogue/catalogue.asp?isbn=9780521694438>, on Amazon, or through many other outlets.

For further information, contact Dr. Peter Singer at peter.singer@mrcglobal.org.

Executive Announcements

The Ontario CritiCall Program announces **Peter Varga** as its new Client Services Director, effective April 1, 2008.

On March 31, 2008, **Sue Denomy** was appointed as

President and CEO of Bluewater Health. Ms. Denomy has been acting President and CEO since August 2007.

Silvana Biscaro was appointed Administrative Program Director

for Emergency Department/ Critical Care/Access Services, St. Joseph's Health Centre as of March 25, 2008; and **Michael Heffer** was appointed Director of Pharmacy effective April 21, 2008.

The Royal Ottawa Health Care Group (ROHCG) announced the appointment of its new President and CEO, **George Weber**, effective April 1, 2008.

Report from Queen's Park

2008 Ontario Budget Released Last Week

Ontario Finance Minister **Dwight Duncan** released the 2008 Provincial Budget on March 25, 2008. The budget allocated just over \$40 billion in 2008/09 to various health care initiatives which include:

Wait Times

- \$180 million over the next three years to provide incentives for continuous improvements in emergency department wait times and patient satisfaction.
- \$64 million over the next three years to provide about 12,400 additional general surgeries starting in 2008/09, growing to about 30,000 additional surgeries in 2010/11.
- \$120 million over the next three years for hospitals in areas experiencing high population growth to meet anticipated demand.
- \$190 million over the next three years to implement a *Chronic Disease Prevention and Management Strategy*, starting with diabetes.
- \$80 million over the next three years to improve mental health and addiction services, including funding to increase treatment for eating disorder services and early intervention for psychosis.
- \$17 million over the next three years to fund the operation of an additional five MRI machines, resulting in about 21,900 additional MRI scans.
- \$278 million over the next three years to

address various program needs in long-term care homes.

- \$154 million over the next three years to increase early detection and treatment of breast, cervical and colorectal cancers. This will also cover the cost of the Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) test used to diagnose and monitor treatment of prostate cancer.

Family Health Care

- \$53 million over the next three years to add 50 more Family Health Teams by 2011/12, targeting rural and under-served communities.
- \$38 million over the next three years to create 25 nurse practitioner-led clinics by 2011/12.
- More than \$500 million over the next three years towards the hiring of 9,000 nurses by 2011/12 (including 2,000 nurses to be hired in long-term care homes over the next four years).

e-Health

- Investing \$47 million in 2008/09, growing to \$239 million in 2010/11, in e-Health systems such as diagnostic imaging, drug and lab information, and a diabetes registry which will help people with diabetes actively manage their disease in conjunction with their health care providers.



OHA

Conferences

Region 1 North West Conference Advancing Safety and Quality of Care April 16, 17 & 18, 2008 Thunder Bay

This conference will provide an excellent forum for health care leaders and trustees to network, learn and discuss both the opportunities and challenges facing health care today, with a specific focus on identifying strategies and engaging organizations in reporting quality of care and patient safety indicators. This conference will address a range of issues, including e-Health strategies, patient safety and quality, Hospital Standardized Mortality Ratios (HSMR), the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation's (CCHSA) new accreditation standards, the evolving role of Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) and the Joint Policy and Planning Committee's Core Services Report. A CEO breakfast, trustee and hospital breakout sessions, and section meetings will also provide participants the opportunity to share ideas and experiences.

Speakers include Dr. Michael Baker, Provincial Lead, Patient Safety and Quality, Health System Accountability and Performance Division, MOHLTC and Dr. Andrew McDonald, Chair, MAC Quality of Care Committee, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. For further information, contact Joanne Grzywna at 416-205-1341 or 1-800-598-8002, ext. 1341 or jgrzywna@oha.com.

Qmentum: What the New Accreditation Process Means to Your Organization April 29, 2008 Toronto

Accreditation is an important part of continuous quality improvement and one way to ensure that safe, efficient, and reliable care is being delivered within the health system. This year, the CCHSA is phasing-in a new accreditation program called *Qmentum*. The goals of the new program include streamlining the accreditation process; helping health care organizations focus on quality improvement actions and results; encouraging organizations to use and implement the standards into daily practice; and increasing the focus of accreditation on care delivery, quality of services, and patient safety. Development work on the new program began in spring 2005 with pilot testing in fall 2007. The CCHSA began phasing-in this upgraded program in January 2008, and by 2009, CCHSA clients will be using new components of this program.

Participants will have the opportunity to gain critical insight into the new program through an in-depth discussion by participating organizations. Delegates will also learn the implications to their organization. For further information, contact Sara Simone at 416-205-1314 or ssimone@oha.com.

Interprofessional Care May 5, 2008 Toronto

Interprofessional care is the provision of comprehensive health services by a team of professionals working together to deliver the best quality care through a multi-disciplinary approach. Growing evidence shows that this approach can lead to improved patient care and more effective use of health care resources, along with other benefits like enhancement of health practitioners' skills, reduced clinical error, increased provider satisfaction and reduced staff shortages.

The federal, provincial and territorial governments have identified interprofessional care as a priority for health system renewal because it helps address the financial and resource shortages currently facing the system. In June 2006, the MOHLTC and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities created the HealthForceOntario Interprofessional Care Project to identify the priorities that will facilitate the systemic implementation of interprofessional care. This conference will provide participants with an opportunity to examine the challenges involved in interprofessional care and to identify strategies, possible solutions and proven cases for its successful implementation. For further information, contact Sara Simone at 416-205-1314 or ssimone@oha.com.

Community Engagement in an Evolving Health Care Environment May 15, 2008 Toronto

Its governance practices make Ontario the only democratic hospital sector left in Canada, and one that continues to receive strong support from government. As this structure demands a high degree of openness and accountability from hospitals, public debate can emerge over complex issues. Hospital boards must take responsibility and make difficult decisions in the best interests of their community.

This conference will gather together trustees, hospital and health care leaders, and trusted experts in governance to discuss the importance of community engagement in the province's changing health care system. The program will feature a host of impressive speakers sharing governance and community engagement best practices from the field as well as from regulated industries. In addition, a panel session on community engagement in a LHIN environment will provide an out-of-province perspective, as well as lessons learned around decision-making and fostering key stakeholder relationships. For further information, contact Josie Mazzola at 416-205-1356 or jmazzola@oha.com.

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OHA Conferences (continued)

Moving Forward - Rural/Northern Hospital Strategy

May 21, 2008

Toronto

The OHA is pleased with the government's election commitment to improve life for rural and northern Ontario residents by developing a rural/northern hospital strategy. Last year representatives from many small hospitals participated in the development of the *JPPC's Core Services Report*, released in June 2007, which served as a productive precursor to the development of the government's rural/northern strategy.

To provide advice to the government with regard to the rural/northern hospital strategy, the OHA is planning a one-day, facilitated forum on May 21, 2008. The goal of the forum is to bring small and northern hospitals together to discuss how to build on the third phase of the report to ensure that it is meaningful and useful for small hospitals, and to look at how to shape the government's rural/northern hospital strategy. For further information, contact Shannon Byck at 416-205-1357 or sbyck@oha.com.

Preventing Workplace Violence: Enabling a Culture of Respect

May 22, 2008 (London)

May 26, 2008 (Ottawa)

June 5, 2008 (Thunder Bay)

June 10, 2008 (Sudbury)

The Dupont-Daniel Inquest recommendations have provided a framework for examining the root causes of workplace violence. Participants will examine the various forms of workplace violence and the resources needed to develop an effective prevention program. Topics include an overview of workplace violence, how to empower staff by holding physicians accountable, establishing a workplace violence prevention

program, an Ottawa study on health care professionals and disruptive behaviour, and lessons from the field. The goal of this conference is to provide practical methods in the prevention of workplace violence and the promotion of a culture of respect and safety. This conference will launch in Toronto on April 11th. For further information, contact Joanne Grzywna at 416-205-1314 or jgrzywna@oha.com.

Financial Management and Budgeting

June 9, 10 & 11, 2008

Toronto

Due to popular demand, two additional program dates are now open for registration, scheduled in June and in November 2008. Register now because space is limited!

Financial management skills are crucial to overcoming challenges during this period of financial constraint and increased pressure to perform. This course, designed to meet the needs of health care managers, will show participants how to plan more effectively and deal with the issues affecting finance within their area of responsibility. For further information, contact Marisa Bavaro at 416-205-1309 or mbavaro@oha.com.

Leading Management through Exemplary Leadership, Level II

June 23, 24 & 25, 2008.

Toronto

This program will focus on strategic and operational planning, change management, stress management and emotional intelligence, combined with several management topics covered in the Level I program: motivation, strategic leadership, communications, perceptions and listening teamwork, and team building and empowerment. Level II will provide graduates of both programs with a solid base for personal development and leadership. For further information, contact Marisa Bavaro at 416-205-1309 or mbavaro@oha.com.



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