

May 16, 2007

FINALISTS FOR THE CELEBRATING INNOVATIONS IN HEALTH CARE EXPO 2007 AWARDS

Celebrating Innovations in Health Care Expo 2007 showcases innovative solutions and projects supporting the health care system in Ontario. More than 200 exhibitors and 14 high-level workshops highlight important health care issues such as: health promotion, improving patient care quality and safety and innovations in health human resources. The expo presents an opportunity to learn about new programs and approaches that are making our health care system better across Ontario.

This years Celebrating Innovations in Health Care awards categories and finalists are:

INNOVATIONS IN HEALTH HUMAN RESOURCES

Huron Family Health Team (South West LHIN)

HealthKick Huron

- Created an initiative to educate youth about career opportunities in health care, and how to obtain health care credentials and skills.

The Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences (Toronto Central LHIN)

Defining Clinical Readiness

- Designed a research project that is examining the clinical readiness of newly graduated health care professionals to help improve and create better quality health care education and mentorship in Ontario.

The Ottawa Hospital (Champlain LHIN)

Hiring New Graduate Nurses in the ICU

- Created a focused new training and mentoring program to recruit and train Registered Nurses to specialize in critical care.

INNOVATIONS IN HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Department of Family Medicine, McMaster University and Fig P. Software Incorporated

(Hamilton Niagara LHIN) *P-PROMPT*

- Developed an innovative information system called P-PROMPT that is boosting screening rates in Ontario for mammograms, pap testing, influenza vaccination and childhood primary vaccinations.

Leamington District Memorial Hospital, Kent Health Alliance and Ontario Telemedicine Network

(Erie St. Clair LHIN) *The Virtual Psychiatric Emergency Room*

- Created a virtual Psychiatric Emergency Room that helps to assess patients admitted to the ER, which results in a quicker diagnosis and access to mental health care.

Thames Valley Family Practice Research Unit (South West LHIN)

International Classification of Primary Care

- Developed a new system to classify patient records to improve regional health care planning.

IMPROVING EFFICIENCY THROUGH PROCESS REDESIGN

Dryden Area Family Health Team (North West LHIN)

It's Your Health!

- Empowered patients to make healthy lifestyle choices focusing on three key areas, Healthy Living, Manage Your Health and Your Health. The program combines group education and toolkits to provide patients at risk for, or coping with chronic diseases, with improved support.

Holland Orthopaedic and Arthritic Centre, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre (Toronto Central LHIN)

New Assessment Model for Hip and Knee Replacement

- Created a centralized assessment centre that's helping to reduce wait times and improve care for people undergoing hip and knee replacement surgery.

Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, University Health Network (Toronto Central LHIN)

Improving Continuity of Care: Electronic Sign Out

- Created a web-based electronic sign out form to improve continuity of care for patients transferring from one team to another. The new system ensures up-to-the-minute records and medical information is immediately accessible by the new team.

IMPROVING QUALITY AND PATIENT SAFETY

The Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (Champlain LHIN)

Paediatric Standardized Concentrations

- Created a new treatment procedure that standardizes intravenous drug and fluid infusions for children to maximize safety and treatment effectiveness.

Group Health Centre, Sault Ste. Marie (North East LHIN)

Health Promotion Initiatives (HPI)

- Developed preventative programs and improved the quality of health care to help sustain a 43 per cent reduction in hospital readmissions.

St. Michael's Hospital (Toronto Central LHIN)

Ticket to Home

- Created a bedside checklist that clearly outlines a list of goals to be followed and achieved by each patient before discharge, which helped improve communication between patients, families and the hospital. Patients reported an 8 per cent increase in overall satisfaction.

INNOVATIONS IN HEALTH PROMOTION

St. Michael's Hospital (Toronto Central LHIN)

Using Interventionist Media with Young Parents NFA

- Created "I Was Here" program that gives young, homeless parents a voice to share their struggles via new media blogging.

Whitby Mental Health Centre (Central East LHIN)

"Stomp Out Stigma" Summits for Students in Durham

- Created "Stomp out Stigma" program that helps educate teenagers about mental health issues to encourage them to create anti-stigma teams within their own schools.

Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care (Central East LHIN)

Chronic Disease Self-Management in the Chinese Community

- A community-based program developed to provide peer learning and support for Chinese-Canadians to cope and manage chronic health conditions.

MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS THROUGH INTEGRATED HEALTH CARE

Links2Care (Central West, Mississauga Halton and Waterloo Wellington LHINs)

Home at Last!

- Created a smoother transition program for elderly people as they are released from the hospital into a home-care setting. The Personal Support Worker picks up groceries and prescriptions, prepares a homecoming meal and stays with the patient until a family member or caregiver arrives.

The Ottawa Hospital (Champlain LHIN)

Outpatient Management of Pleural Effusions

- Oncology team pioneered a new kind of chest tube – called the PleurX - to allow drainage of lung fluid. The pilot program helps reduce discomfort, invasive treatments and hospital stays for people diagnosed with terminal cancer.

Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (North West LHIN)

Multi Site Cardiac Rehabilitation Program

- Created a breakthrough telemedicine program that helps provide better care and rehabilitation for people who have cardiac illness. People recovering from cardiac surgeries and illnesses receive rehabilitative information, advice and practical support from their own homes.

-30-

Media Contacts:

Jeff Rohrer
Minister's Office
416-326-8016

David Jensen
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
416-314-6197

Disponible en français.

www.health.gov.on.ca