

Ministry of Health
and Long-Term Care

Ministère de la Santé
et Soins de longue durée



Hepburn Block, 10th Floor
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto ON M7A 1R3
Tel.: 416 327-4300
Fax: 416 326-1570

Édifice Hepburn, 10^e étage
80, rue Grosvenor
Toronto ON M7A 1R3
Tél. : 416 327-4300
Télééc. : 416 326-1570

September 17, 2008

Dear Colleagues:

IMPORTANT CHANGE

On reviewing the CDAD data submitted by hospitals and on the advice of experts, the Ministry has determined that it will post hospital CDAD counts that are 0 and 5 and greater. Counts between 1 – 4 will be posted as <5.

No changes will be made to the nosocomial CDAD rate posting approach

The Ministry recommends that hospitals consult with their privacy advisors related to posting counts between 1 and 4.

I would like to thank all hospital CEOs and Board Chairs for their support for the government's public safety agenda, and specifically for the first indicator, C. difficile. I am pleased to report that all data was submitted on time to the ministry. On my travels around the province I have had the pleasure to meet many of you as well as local Medical Officers of Health. I am very optimistic that together we will improve patient safety in hospitals.

As noted above, the ministry has made a change to the reporting process. Please see attached for an update to the July 29th letter from John McKinley, ADM, HSI MI, which provides additional detail. I hope this late change will not cause inconvenience, but on review of the data, in consultation with experts, and in keeping with the principle of transparency, this change seemed appropriate.

The Ministry recommends that hospitals consult with their privacy advisor on releasing numbers between 1 to 4. Questions or further clarification related to reporting details can be referred to Sten Ardal, Director Health Analytics, MOHLTC, at 416-327-6483.

Included with this e-mail is the confidential listing of CDAD data by hospital. Hospitals are asked to contact the Ministry (above) if they note any discrepancy between the data included in this list and their own data. The Ontario Hospital Association will work with all hospitals on media communications.

The ministry will be posting the data to its web site on Friday September 26 at 1 p.m.. An announcement will also take place at 1 p.m. with Minister Caplan and myself at the University Health Network.

Again thank you for your support. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly at michael.baker@uhn.on.ca if you have any questions, wish to discuss these issues further or have suggestions for the future of the Patient Safety Initiative.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Michael Baker M.D.
Executive Lead – Patient Safety

cc: Hon. David Caplan, MPP
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

Ron Sapsford
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

