

July 2001

We are pleased to provide the following update on the recent activities of the Child Health Network for the Greater Toronto Area (CHN).

Inaugural Meeting of Full Council Well Attended

More than fifty CEOs and board members of hospitals and CCACs attended the inaugural meeting of the CHN Council held on May 7th. Council Chair, Sheila Jarvis, provided a general overview of the work of the CHN, its evolution, accomplishments, current priorities and future directions. The meeting also provided an opportunity to receive official endorsement of the Council's 2001/02 operating plan and to discuss a new governance structure to help facilitate the work of the Network.

John King, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health Programs at the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care attended the meeting. Mr. King reminded members that the MOHLTC announced its policy for maternal/newborn and children's services exactly one year earlier. He acknowledged the tremendous amount of work accomplished by the Network since that time to operationalize the Child Health Network. He expressed support, on behalf of the Ministry, for the work of the CHN noting, in particular, its work related to:

- Development of Guidelines for clinical scope of maternal/newborn and children's services;
- Development of cluster groupings to support regionalization;
- Development of common strategies for establishing standardized guidelines, including transfer guidelines and pediatric triage guidelines (CTAS);
- Identification and implementation of shared education needs for Network members; and,
- Initiation of a performance evaluation project to monitor and track the progress of the Network.

Mr. King urged members to move forward with the vision of building a strong regionalized system of care to support maternal/newborn and children's services in the GTA.

Mr. Hume Martin, Executive Director of the Alberta Children's Hospital and a senior executive at the Calgary Regional Health Authority was the guest speaker. His remarks focused on Calgary's approach and experience with regionalization of maternal/newborn and children's services and emphasized the importance of leaders working together to achieve a common vision. Focusing on a few important issues at a time, engaging the medical leadership and the academic community in the process, obtaining input from families and parents, and maintaining strong communication throughout the change process were also noted as key factors contributing to successful outcomes.



Sheila Jarvis, CHN Chair, presents an award to Alan Goldbloom and Susan Pigott, a Trustee of the Board of the Hospital for Sick Children (HSC) in recognition of the HSC's contribution to the development of the CHN

Advancing the Regionalization of Maternal/Newborn and Children's Services

Establishment of Regional Clusters

The maternal/newborn and children's services regional models of care delivery recognize that regional clusters within the GTA each have unique characteristics that require local collaboration around planning.

It is expected that the regional clusters will:

- ensure maternal/newborn and children's and services within a geographic area are organized and provided in a coordinated manner tailored to the individual needs and unique characteristics of each region and
- facilitate collaborative planning and build strong partnerships in order to develop more integrated and innovative 'systems' solutions in key areas (e.g., education, services planning, transport)

The four clusters are:

<p>NORTH CLUSTER Bloorview MacMillan Centre North York CCAC North York General Hospital Southlake Regional Health Centre Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre York Central Hospital CCAC of York Region</p>	<p>CENTRAL CLUSTER East York Access Centre Humber River Regional Hospital Mount Sinai Hospital St. Joseph's Health Centre St. Michael's Hospital The Hospital for Sick Children Toronto CCAC Toronto East General Hospital University Health Network York CCAC</p>
<p>EAST CLUSTER Durham Access to Care Lakeridge Health Corporation Markham Stouffville Hospital Rouge Valley Health System Scarborough CCAC The Scarborough Hospital CCAC of York Region</p>	<p>WEST CLUSTER CCAC of Halton CCAC of Peel Etobicoke CCAC Halton Healthcare Services The Credit Valley Hospital Trillium Health Centre William Osler Health Centre</p>

Tertiary centres, including the Bloorview MacMillan Centre, Mount Sinai Hospital, Sunnybrook and Women's College and The Hospital for Sick Children will be a central resource to each of the regional clusters.

Evidence-based Guidelines

Consensus Forum on Guidelines

The CHN has developed an inventory that identifies current guidelines available across the Network, work of external groups in this area, and potential gaps. This background work was used to initiate discussion at a consensus forum sponsored by the Coordinating Committee. The purpose of the forum was:

- To determine an appropriate role for the CHN in development, implementation and evaluation of clinical, organizational and system guidelines
- To identify priority guidelines to be developed and implemented across the Network
- To determine the most appropriate process for development of priority guidelines

On the issue of an appropriate role for the CHN, the following priority areas were identified:

- Acting as a clearinghouse for guidelines for member organizations
- For prioritized clinical guidelines, identifying key elements and requesting that members include them in their organization's guidelines
- For organizational guidelines, identifying those that are 'policy' and developing common and consistent guidelines across the Network
- For system guidelines, identifying all guidelines as 'policy' and developing them a high priority.

Narcotic Poster

A poster entitled *Intermittent Narcotic Analgesia Dosing for Infants and Children* has been developed in response to a recommendation from the Trevor Landry inquest. The poster, distributed to all member organizations, will serve to improve the safety of narcotic administration for infants and children by providing an easily accessible reference for staff involved in medication administration. For additional copies, please contact the CHN office at 416-813-6137.

CHN Events

Family-Centred Care Workshop a Success

Approximately 150 health professionals and parents across the CHN attended a session on Family Centred Care presented by Beverly Johnson, President and CEO of the Institute of Family-Centered Care.

The session provided practical strategies for improving care to patients and families. Participants developed personal and organizational plans for strengthening family-centered care both within their own organizations and across the Network. The highlight of the workshop came from two family members from CHN organizations who told personal stories of care they or their child had received. These inspiring and moving stories reinforced the core principles of Family-Centered Care: respect, strength, choice, flexibility, sharing of information, support, collaboration and empowerment.

The CHN will be developing a plan for follow-up with members in order to build on the energy and commitment expressed by members attending the workshop.

The Child Health Network for
the Greater Toronto Area
presents

The Canadian Acuity and Triage Scale – paediatric supplement (P-CTAS)



Watch for more information on:

- the train-the-trainer session of this new 5-level triage scale for children on October 15th, and
- the implementation of the P-CTAS in your hospital's emergency department.

Working together for children's health

MEMBER NEWS

New Appointments

The South Peel/Halton Maternal Child Program is pleased to announce **Kathryn Hayward-Murray** to the position of Regional Neonatal Education Coordinator. Kathryn will assume a leadership role in the development and implementation of an education program for Credit Valley Hospital, Trillium Health Centre and Halton Healthcare Services to address the needs of staff, consistent with each hospital's neonatal designations. She will also facilitate implementation of Child Health Network education and outreach policies and initiatives across the three hospitals.

The Child Health Network would like to extend its congratulations to the following individuals who have been appointed as Chiefs of Paediatrics: **Dr. Rosemary Moodie**, Rouge Valley Health System; **Dr. Mary Mitchell**, Lakeridge Health Corporation; **Dr. Mike Dunn** (paediatrics/neonatology), Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Science Centre; and **Dr. Tony Barrazino**, St. Michael's Hospital.

Funding for New Services within the Child Health Network

Southlake Regional Health Centre has received a total of \$1.9 million in new funding for child and adolescent mental health services. This new funding will allow the hospital to create inpatient beds, enhance specialized programs and address current waiting list pressures for outpatient services. Of the total amount, \$1.6 million will fund the implementation of 10 regional child and adolescent inpatient mental health beds, five of which are expected to open and serve all of York Region by the fall of 2001. The number of beds will grow to 10 once the hospital's Regional Redevelopment project is complete in 2003.

St. Michael's Hospital has received \$5.2 million for new nursery and endoscopy suites. More than half of the new funding will equip the hospital's new state-of-the-art maternal and newborn nursery that will provide health care for mothers who have a low to moderate risk of complications. In addition, care will be provided for babies with short-term conditions and for stable low birth weight babies. The new funding will also provide for an electronic fetal monitor system linked centrally to a nurse's station that continuously monitors the progress of labour. It also includes neonatal monitors for the new 20-bed nursery.

Lakeridge Health Corporation (LHC) Regional Paediatric/Perinatal Planning Day

On April 27, LHC held a planning day to review and select indicators to measure the Perinatal/Paediatric Cluster's performance and quality in congruence with:

- LHC's vision and mission
- CHN's vision and mission
- National Guidelines for Family Centres Maternal/Newborn Care
- The AIM program of the CCHSA

Selected indicators will support the goals of enhancing access, augmenting member effectiveness, and supporting the CHN.

The CHN is based on a partnership of community and hospital providers working together to build an integrated, high-quality, family-centred health system for mothers, infants, children and youth across the GTA. Membership includes:

*Bloorview MacMillan Centre
Community Access Care Centre
of Halton
Community Care Access Centre
of Peel
Community Care Access Centre
of York Region
Durham Access to Care
East York Access Centre
Etobicoke Community Care
Access Centre
Halton Healthcare Services
Humber River Regional Hospital
Lakeridge Health Corporation
Markham Stouffville Hospital
Mount Sinai Hospital
North York Community Care
Access Centre
North York General Hospital
Rouge Valley Health System
St. Joseph's Health Centre
St. Michael's Hospital
Scarborough Community Care
Access Centre
Southlake Regional Health
Centre
Sunnybrook and Women's
College Health Sciences Centre
The Credit Valley Hospital
The Hospital for Sick Children
The Scarborough Hospital
Toronto Community Care Access
Centre
Toronto East General Hospital
Trillium Health Centre
William Osler Health Centre
York Central Hospital
York Community Care Access
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