



Director of Integrated Care Monthly Update: October 2023

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Ministry of Health/Ontario Health Highlights:

Ministry Highlights

- The Minister of Health delivered a message surrounding OHT Acceleration on September 27, 2023, where 12 approved OHTs were selected to proceed in the first cohort to designation.

Ontario Health Highlights

- Final Report is due to OH on October 31, 2023. The final report consists of 4 parts:
 - Final Narrative Report and 6-month Workplan
 - Financial Expenditure Statement
 - Performance Indicator Report
 - Membership List
- Provincial advisory groups on OHT governance and system transformation continue.
- Members of the AOHT and Nipissing Wellness OHT met with OH representatives on September 18th to discuss and identify opportunities for effective collaboration across OH NE, OHTs and local planning tables to ensure successful implementation of integrated service delivery models, Ontario Health Teams, across the NE.

<p>Governance Sub-Committee Highlights:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The governance sub-committee has supported Annette in her role at the governance table and paused on developing further structures until guidance emerges from the provincial table. The provincial governance committee meetings are scheduled until the end of October, meaning we can anticipate a potential product in November. • Cadence of meetings continued to align with subsequent provincial table meetings. The governance committee will reconvene following the end of the provincial series. It has been determined that the committee will proceed with CDMA development and membership onboarding.
<p>Transformation Office Highlights:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The AOHT helped support the submission of 2 Models of Care Innovation Fund funding proposals: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Expanding the HHR workforce through supporting international medical graduates and other healthcare professionals in Algoma b. Expanding access to Primary Care in Algoma by increasing Nurse Practitioner capacity at the Group Health Centre c. The AOHT also wrote a letter of support for the Huron Shores Family Health team submission focusing on the expansion of the Palliative Care Program throughout North Shore communities. 2. The AOHT Transformation Office is extending the Project Management Consultant position until December 2023 and the Research Assistant position until March 2024. The Communications and Community Engagement Coordinator position will remain vacant indefinitely. 3. The AOHT Transformation Office is supporting the implementation phase planning of the Episodic Access to Virtual Care (EAVC) project. EAVC is a regional project with 6 other OHTs from the North East. <p>Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project Percolator meeting is set to take place in Blind River on Friday, October 13 with a focus on primary care delivery in a rural setting. Our moderator will be Mary Ellen Luukkonen and Amanda Knuff and Sommer Francoeur will deliver the spotlight presentation.

STRENGTHENING CARE IN ALGOMA

Deliverable	Status	Update
<p>Healthy Aging: Implement recommendations from the Algoma</p>	<p>On track</p>	<p><i>ALC Leading Practices Engagements</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to update the current healthy aging strategy and better understand the needs of the community, the AOHT partnered with Ontario Health and NESGC to conduct two ALC leading practice sessions (Blind River, June 8th & Sault Ste. Marie, June 29th).

[COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery Plan for Older Adults and their Caregivers](#)

- Part of the sessions will explore the opportunity to spread and scale pilot projects (post-fall pathway, early frailty ID and coordinated access to geriatric services).
- Sessions are attended by leaders and front line to understand opportunities and current innovations within the community to reduce ED presentations and ALC designations.
- On October 11th, a follow up session was held to discuss the outcomes of the current state review and to begin identifying initiatives to reduce and prevent ALC, using the projects done to date as the foundation. The Blind River session will be held on October 13th.

Post-Fall Pathway

- Post-fall pathway stakeholders identified the need to place SSM based expansion and future PDSA cycles on hold until additional rehabilitative care services are available to frail unconfined patients within the community. Barriers identified include primary care capacity, availability of services, cost of services, and transportation.
- SSM Paramedic Services (including Community Paramedicine) has been actively engaged to participate in the Rehabilitative Care Alliance (RCA) regional stakeholder meetings. To prepare for future post-fall pathway adoption, SSM Paramedic Services completed RCA baseline chart reviews and paramedic surveys in the summer.
- Work has taken place to provide referring sources with education of currently available services such as Social Prescribing for 55+ programming and transportation services. It is anticipated that further resources and education will be provided as part of the AOHTs System Navigation work.
- Contacts in North and East Algoma have been made to explore future expansion of the post-fall pathway in those regions.

Early Frailty Identification in Primary Care

- The Algoma Nurse Practitioner-led Clinic has implemented the early frailty identification pilot in January 2023. PDSA cycles are completed with focus on sustainability of the pilot within ANPLC.

Coordinated Access to Geriatric Services

- This month, an updated SAH Geriatric Services form was circulated for use. Updates to the form were made based on stakeholder quality improvement feedback. The form updates support accommodation for the addition of future services, support sharing of clinical information across SAH services and aim to streamline the use of the form.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future SSM based expansion to support coordinated access to geriatric services dependent on funding, eReferral integrations, primary care funding models, HHR coordination, and the infrastructure to support the sharing of clinical information for patient care. • It is anticipated that the Harmonized Information Management Plan work being carried out by the AOHT Freedom of Information and Privacy CoP will support the development of the infrastructure to support the sharing of clinical information for patient care. • Contacts in North and East Algoma have been made to explore increasing uptake of the referral form among primary care providers. <p><i>Outpatient Geriatric Rehabilitation Capacity</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project has transitioned over to Sault Area Hospital to further develop the program and operationalize. <p><i>System Navigation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The System Navigation working group continues to meet to explore current opportunities to enhance navigation for Algoma residents. Initial priority populations will focus on older adults and mental health and addiction services. The working group is a collaboration among acute care, primary care, community support services and social services. • Work continues to develop a ‘find services’ page on the AOHT’s website to enhance patient-facing system navigation, as well as finalize the Aging in Algoma resource guide, intended to improve health literacy and increase awareness of resources • The MHA Roadmap working group is making great strides towards the design phase of the project. The team is currently exploring opportunities to leverage 211 Data through a collaboration with the SSM Innovation Centre.
<p>Conditions Better Managed in the Community: Establish a three-year plan to address complex chronic disease needs in Algoma</p>	<p>Delayed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Analysis: The AOHT has been collecting, analyzing and evaluating data to inform the next steps in Complex Chronic Disease Management as outlined in The Path Forward. Data revealed a high prevalence of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) across Algoma. • The AOHT continues to engage in meetings with community partners to investigate the current patient journey and resources available for those experiencing respiratory illness in the District of Algoma.

<p>Mental Health and Addictions: Implement a three-year plan for mental health and addictions needs in Algoma <u>AND</u> review and implement recommendations from the <i>Community Wellness Bus Development Evaluation</i></p>	On track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mental Health and Addictions Planning Table is starting to meet and increase representations from various stakeholders, including primary care, Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services, and Psychiatry, acute care and SOYA. • The first meeting of the planning table was held on June 28th. The planning table has since developed a work plan to outline objectives and tasks that will be prioritized over the coming years. • SSM Drug Strategy, led by Algoma Public Health, will meet once more before summer.
<p>COVID-19</p>	N/A	

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT

Deliverable	Status	Update
<p>Implement our <u>Patient, Family and Caregiver Partnership and Engagement Strategy</u></p>	On track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Care PFAC: In April 2023, we began recruiting for our first Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC). This PFAC will focus on Primary Care initiatives in Algoma. 22 advisors were onboarded over the summer (July 2022) and the kick-off meeting happened in September. At this event, advisors were given level-setting, foundational information about integrated care and the role of Ontario Health Teams. The group is set to meet for a second time on October 17th. The group will receive a presentation surrounding data and performance measurement.
<p>Adopt and implement a framework for</p>	Delayed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The AOHT is connecting organizations, which have a current strategic focus on health and social equity to explore the opportunity to address diversity, equity and inclusion from a community

equity, diversity, and inclusion		<p>perspective. The group plans to develop a resource guide with training, and funding opportunities depending on a range of factors (i.e. budget, mode of delivery, capacity, etc.). The group will also focus on how to build education and training capacity within our community, and strategize for how to disseminate valuable learnings throughout organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A research project is in its infancy stages to understand what collective interventions the community needs from a system-level to advance social equity. Local organizations will collaborate to administer a generalizable and validated survey tool to patient/clients in order to determine general experiences system-wide. The survey will include an extensive, equity-driven demographic section for stratification purposes. Planned follow up with qualitatively co-designed interventions for low scoring populations and domains (interviews, focus groups, and/or stakeholder/frontline perspectives). The project will use the survey evidence to drive system improvement, organizations will implement evidence-informed interventions and reassessment will evaluate system-level outcomes. ● In collaboration with NOSM U Centre for Social Accountability, the AOHT Transformation Office, along with members from Maamwesying OHT, Group Health Centre, Sault Area Hospital, and HCCSS-NE, completed a 12-week education series focused on health equity and quality improvement methods for population health management. The education series was designed specifically for the AOHT and will be used as a model for education of OHTs moving forward.
Improve community uptake of the <i>Algoma OHT Guiding Values and Principles</i> , including the <i>Ontario Patient, Family and Caregiver Declaration of Values (PFCDV)</i>	On track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The PFCDV has recently been approved by the Sault Area Hospital Board of Directors. We are exploring ways to communicate the values to 1) staff and volunteers and 2) the community. Focuses of the communications include emphasizing that the values were written by patients, families, and caregivers from across Ontario and do not replace existing organizational values.
Increase organizational uptake of the Caregiver ID program	On track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Three additional organizations have implemented the Caregiver ID program (Finnish Resthome, Mapleview and Algoma Manor) with three organizations who are in the process of/have expressed interest in implementing (North Shore Health Network and FJ Davey). ● Caregiver ID Phase 2 explorations have been occurring to understand how the Caregiver ID program can become more routinized in the community.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the exploration of Caregiver ID, the AOHT has collaborated with Algoma University and Ontario Caregiver Organization to conduct a research study focusing on the unique needs of caregivers in the north. Data collection (interviews & focus groups) have been completed and the research team is currently analyzing the information gathered.
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BUILDING A FOUNDATION FOR COLLABORATION

Deliverable	Status	Update
Digital Health: Implement priorities from our <i>Harmonized Information Management Plan</i>	On track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oct 5th Digital Health Committee meeting included updates from general members, a presentation on system navigation, an OH eServices update and an update on Freedom of Information and Privacy Officer CoP tasks. Meeting cadence to change to quarterly moving forward. Privacy Officers Community of Practice- monthly meetings every 3rd Friday of the month, AOHT Privacy Web Pages launched for review with CoP, and finalization of Maturity Gap Analysis Tool underway. Online Appointment Booking- new funding announced for 23/24, Wawa Family Health Team, Group Health Centre, ANPLC (renewal funding request), and Sault Community Health Centre have received approval for OH funding and OH OAB kickoff meeting completed Sept. 28, 2023 Episodic Access to Virtual Care NE Regional Collaboration: NE Regional OHT Collaborative approved by OH to move forward with design work. Working group of clinicians and executive directors representing OHTs and communities of the North East was formed in early April upon OH approval to work on design. The group has now submitted a final report on May 31 detailing environmental scan of Virtual Visit solutions, and requirements gathered to-date to propose future implementation of a NP led virtual care for non-urgent appointments for unattached patients and those patients that are unable to see their primary care providers in a timely manner (as determined by Health811 triaging protocols). Recent RFP posted here: https://maamwesying.ca/rfp-oht-website/ Next steps include gaining more feedback into planning, and applying for funding for implementation. OH is currently also planning for the East Region to implement an interim solution for the Northeast during the fall/early winter of this fiscal year. Ongoing collaboration with Ontario Health (OH) through different Communities of Practice (i.e.; Health811/Patient Navigation COP; Online Appointment Booking COP), and OH Digital Health Advisory Committee

<p>Performance Measurement and cQIP:</p>	<p>On track</p>	<p><i>Preventative Screening Clinics</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In partnership with Algoma Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic, Superior Family Health Team, Group Health Centre, and Algoma Public Health, 3 successful Cervical Screening Clinics were held in the community. ● In total, 140 individuals were screened for cervical cancer, most of which were unattached to a primary care provider. ● ANPLC and GHC have agreed to host cervical screening clinics for unattached patients in F23/24. The first clinic occurred on September 29th at ANPLC. 46 unattached individuals were screened. <p><i>Performance Measurement Framework</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ontario Health has released community-based data on the OHT data dashboard. The AOHT Transformation Office is in the midst of understanding the data and potential ways to use it to understand our population ● 2022 INSPIRE primary care data has been released for Algoma, it can be found here: https://inspire-phc.org/primary-care-data-reports/ ● Updated cQIP data is expected to be released in late summer 2023. ● The AOHT transformation office is developing a performance measurement framework based on research to better measure overall success. The framework is being populated with indicators and will be piloted in 2023/24.
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