

Pay-for-Results Program gets a Boost

Thursday, July 29th, 2010 - Ontario is expanding its successful Pay-for-Results program and giving four hospitals in the North East Local Health Integration Network the tools they need to drive down Emergency Room (ER) wait times and ensure patients get the emergency care they need, sooner.

Pay-for-Results rewards hospitals for meeting specific ER wait time reduction targets. This year, 71 Ontario hospitals will receive Pay-for-Results funding including four larger hospitals in the North East. Hôpital régional de Sudbury Regional Hospital, Sault Area Hospital, North Bay General Hospital and Timmins and District Hospital will receive a combined total of \$3.5 million to help reduce ER wait times by 15 per cent over the course of the year.

To reach the target, hospitals will use the funds to do things like:

- Hire geriatric emergency nurses and admission nurses to expand staffing as part of emergency department teams,
- Reorganize emergency department teams to improve the work flow,
- Hire patient transportation services to assist with patient flow in and out of the emergency department.

Reducing ER wait times builds on the government's Open Ontario plan to provide more access to health care services while improving accountability for patients.

QUOTES

"Making people spend less time waiting in the hospital ER is the ultimate goal. By providing Pay-for-Results funding to all four of our large hospitals, we hope to see an improvement in wait times and ultimately in patient care."

Louise Paquette, North East LHIN CEO

"We are making strategic investments in programs that reward hospitals for decreasing emergency room wait times in order to help residents of Sault Ste. Marie access the care they need closer to home. The expansion of this important initiative, which includes the Sault Area Hospital, demonstrates our government's continuing commitment to improve front-line health care services for local residents while also implementing accountability measures that will benefit patients."

David Oraziotti, Sault Ste. Marie MPP

"Our government continues to work to optimize front-line services by providing funding and encouraging efficiency through initiatives such as the one we are announcing today. While there is always work to do, our government has advanced health care in our area substantially since 2003 and will continue to do so."

Rick Bartolucci, Sudbury MPP

QUICK FACTS

- As part of the Pay-for-Results program, the Ontario government is providing up to a total of \$100 million to the 14 LHINs.
- There are 163 emergency rooms in the province, with 2.8 million people making 5.25 million visits to these ERs each year.

For More Information Please Contact:

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