

April 2006

Cardiovascular Vision for Ontario

CCN with the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario has launched a provincial cardiovascular visioning process. The Vision will be shared with stakeholders, Ministries of Health and Long-Term Care and Health Promotion and LHINs in June 2006. The purpose is to offer advice to the LHINs and the Ministries in the preparation of their strategic plans.



A **Cardiovascular Summit in May** will bring together representatives from all areas of cardiac care—from prevention to palliation. A broad-based Cardiovascular Advisory Group will develop a framework for input at the cardiac summit.

We look forward working with HSFO and proposing a vision for all cardiovascular services in Ontario.

What's new?

► **Welcome to 18th member of the Network**

On April 1, William Osler Health Centre joined CCN in anticipation of the completion of their new cath lab opening at the new Brampton Civic Hospital campus in 2007. The new programme will eventually be able to perform over 2000 caths a year.

► **Local Health System Integration Act 2006**

Kevin Glasgow and Eric Cohen presented to the Ontario Standing Committee on Social Policy which was hearing public submissions on Bill 36 to implement the LHINS. CCN contributed to amendments to the Bill which include: consultation with "province-wide health planning organizations", and changes to the definition of health service providers to include the word "entity" providing services in or for the local health system.

► **First in Ontario—first in Canada?**

On April 1, 2006 CCN started tracking cardiac valve surgery and PCI by priority and recommended maximum wait time. Thanks go to Drs. Jean-Francois Marquis and Chris Morgan who chaired expert panels to implement this "first in Ontario".

► **Cardiac Surgery: An Industry in Transition**

CCN launched this expert panel chaired by Neil McEvoy in Feb. 2006. Its purpose is to understand the key factors driving change in delivering cardiac surgery in Ontario and the implications for HR planning, infrastructure, research, training and practice standards. A June 2006 Report will focus on how policy makers and CCN should move forward to ensure the sustainability of cardiac surgery in the province.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

► **American College of Cardiology, National Cardiac Database Registry**—presentation on CCN Registry by Kevin Glasgow to 550 hospital reps. at the ACC annual conference *March 2006*

► **CIHI Report *Waiting for Health Care in Canada*** referenced CCN in a feature called "Thinking outside the Region" *March 2006*

► **Op-ed in *Globe & Mail* by Dr. A. Berstein** cited CCN: "experience has important lessons for the First Ministers' Meeting. It illustrates the "knowledge triangle" needed to address health issues ..." *March 2006*

► **Canadian Journal of Cardiology** Delivery of Primary PCI for the Management of Acute ST Segment Elevation MI: Summary of CCN consensus panel report. This was the lead "health outcomes/public policy" article and authors were: Marino Labinaz, Terri Swabey, R. Watson, M. Natarajan, W. Fucile, B. Lubelsky, B.Sawadasky, E. Cohen and K. Glasgow. *March 2006*

Welcome to CCN—New Arrivals

CCN Provincial Office is pleased to welcome the following new staff to the team:

- ▶ Peter Papadakos, BA, System Support Specialist started in Fall 2005 and comes to us from Sunnybrook. He is working in the IT area providing system support, quality assurance and requirements management.
- ▶ Daniela Marinova, Administrative Assistant will be supporting the 10 Point Plan for Action initiative and comes to CCN from the Ministry of Health.
- ▶ Michelle Thornley, RN, CCRC, BScN(c), Clinical Practice Consultant, is a cardiology nurse and researcher who is supporting the clinical practice portfolio in meeting the goals of the 10 Point Plan for Action.
- ▶ Jennifer Mokry, MSW, RSW starts April 10 as Project Manager for the 10 Point Plan for Action, having just completed a contract with the Canadian Coalition for Seniors' Mental Health.

We continue to recruit for a **Decision Support Specialist**—[click here](#) to view the Job Description.

IT Upgrade & Training

The final Cardiaccess upgrade to the current system is finished and was the largest change to date. The key elements of the upgrade are:

- ▶ new PCI and Valve priority scores,
- ▶ new data reporting requirements,
- ▶ changes made by Data Definition Review Working Group.

79 RCCCs and data clerks attended training over 7 days at CCN and 1,600 referring physicians were mailed information packages.

The changes went live April 1, 2006 and CCN will start to report against the benchmarks in the next reporting period.

Watch For:

▶ **HSFO - CCN LHIN consultation report**

During the winter, CCN took part in 14 LHIN consultation sessions across Ontario, and provided detailed data for each area on the LHIN specific wait times and market share of patients. This joint stakeholder consultation process has provided useful information for the joint visioning process. The report includes data from CCN and a record of stakeholder perspective on key cardiac issues from the local level.

▶ **Provincial Communications Plan**

A province wide communications plan includes three campaigns designed to reach physicians,

stakeholders and the public. These campaigns are directly following up and bridging the communications gaps identified in the 10 Point Plan for Action and the Patient, Physician and Public surveys.

As part of the physician education/information campaign, new cath forms and definitions were presented together with information on the Patient Access Process, and contacts for the RCCCs in a mailing to over 1600 physicians who refer patients to the cardiac system in Ontario. Diagrams of the CCN website showing wait time information and referral form

screens were included. All these new materials are available on the website—[click here](#).

▶ **Wait Time Information System**

Updated latest information is available through the April bulletin—[click here](#).

▶ **Improved Website—April 2006**

A new user-friendly look & feel makes it even easier for visitors to find the information they need.

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