

January 30, 2006

CRITICAL CARE RESPONSE TEAMS

Critical Care Response Teams (CCRTs) consist of intensive care physicians, intensive care nurses and Respiratory Therapists who are available 24/7 to take the skills and expertise of a critical care unit beyond its four walls. These innovative teams can deliver care within minutes to any area of the hospital for patients whose condition may be deteriorating. Their quick action will help stabilize patients, reducing the need for lengthy stays in Intensive Care Units (ICU). Working in partnership with specially trained staff in the hospital wards, the teams will also provide assessments on the spot to ensure that patients receive the right care in the right unit of the hospital, including the ICU, thereby saving lives and increasing access to critical care resources.

In pilot programs at four Ontario hospitals, preliminary results were impressive. For example, the Ottawa Hospital demonstrated a 30 per cent reduction in in-patient cardiac arrests. More established teams in other jurisdictions have reached reduction rates over 50 per cent after several years of operation. At University Health Network, the average length of stay in the ICU of patients admitted from the ward dropped from an average of 7 to 2 days and mortality dropped from 14 per cent to 8 per cent over the same period. The ministry will continue monitoring these results to ensure that this innovative approach to patient care yields its full benefits. It is estimated that the the creation of 26 CCRTs will result in improved access to ICU resources equivalent to adding 40 to 50 ICU beds throughout the system. Thus, these teams will help save lives and improve patient outcomes while ensuring that all Ontarians have better access to ICU services.

The following is a list of 26 hospital sites that will establish Critical Care Response Teams, including a demonstration of the model at four paediatric sites.

HOSPITALS SELECTED FOR PHYSICIAN-LED CCRTs

CENTRAL LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORK

1. North York General Hospital

CENTRAL EAST LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORK

2. The Scarborough Hospital – General Site

HAMILTON NIAGARA HALDIMAND BRANT LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORK

3. Hamilton Health Sciences Centre – General Site

4. Hamilton Health Sciences Centre – McMaster Children’s Hospital Site (Demonstration)

5. St. Joseph’s Healthcare, Hamilton

CHAMPLAIN LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORK
6. Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario (Demonstration)
7. The Ottawa Hospital – General Campus
8. The Ottawa Hospital – Civic Campus
MISSISSAUGA HALTON LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORK
9. The Credit Valley Hospital
10. Trillium Health Centre – Mississauga Site
11. Halton Healthcare Services – Oakville Trafalgar Site
NORTHEAST LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORK
12. Sudbury Regional Hospital
NORTHWEST LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORK
13. Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre
SOUTHEAST LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORK
14. Kingston General Hospital
SOUTHWEST LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORK
15. London Health Sciences Centre – Children’s Hospital of Western Ontario (Demonstration)
16. London Health Sciences Centre – University Site
17. London Health Sciences Centre – Victoria Site
TORONTO CENTRAL LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORK
18. Hospital for Sick Children (Demonstration)
19. Mount Sinai Hospital
20. St. Joseph’s Health Centre, Toronto
21. St. Michael’s Hospital
22. Sunnybrook & Women’s College Health Sciences Centre
23. University Health Network – Toronto Western Site
24. University Health Network – Toronto General Site
25. Toronto East General Hospital
WATERLOO WELLINGTON LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORK
26. Grand River Hospital

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