
Subject: Ontario Health Teams

Report to: Public Health and Social Services Committee

Report date: Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Recommendations

That this report **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Key Facts

- Ontario Health Teams are defined by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care as groups of providers and organizations that are clinically and fiscally accountable for delivering a full and coordinated continuum of care to a defined geographic population.
- The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has issued an open invitation to providers across the full continuum of care to come together and demonstrate their readiness to become Ontario Health Teams.
- The health restructuring goal is for all health service providers to eventually join or become Ontario Health Teams.

Financial Considerations

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) health care restructuring includes the introduction of Ontario Health Teams. Niagara Region services currently funded through the Local Health Integration Network including community programs, mental health, community paramedicine and long-term care will continue to be funded as per established Multi-Sector Accountability Agreements (MSAA's) and Long-Term Care Accountability Agreements (LSAA's) until Ontario Health Teams are approved and have moved through a number of developmental stages to maturity. It is proposed that at maturity all providers that are part of an Ontario Health Team will be funded through an integrated funding envelope issued by Ontario Health (the Super Agency) to Ontario Health Teams.

Analysis

Ontario Health Teams, as defined by the MOHLTC, are groups of providers and organizations that are clinically and fiscally accountable for delivering a full and coordinated continuum of care to a defined geographic population – working together to deliver a full continuum of care even if they are not in the same organization or physical location.

Quadruple Aim

Each Ontario Health Team team will work toward four common goals:

- improved patient and population health outcomes
- better patient and caregiver experience
- better provider experience and
- better value and efficiency

Eight Components of the Ontario Health Team Model

There are eight components to the Ontario Health Team model and the MOHLTC has expectations of Ontario Health Teams relative to these components as they move from submitting a readiness assessment to achieving maturity as a designated Ontario Health Team. At a high level these components are:

1. Patient/Resident Care and Experience
2. Patient/Resident Partnership and Community Engagement
3. Defined Patient Population
4. In-Scope Services
5. Leadership, Accountability, and Governance
6. Performance Measurement, Quality Improvement, and Continuous Learning
7. Funding and Incentive Structure
8. Digital Health

The Four Steps to Becoming a Designated Ontario Health Team

The MOHLTC has clarified that the establishment of Ontario Health Teams is not a pilot project. Eventually it is expected that all providers will be part of an Ontario Health Team. Providers are required to complete four steps in their bid to become a designated Ontario Health Team.

Step 1 - Self-Assessing Readiness

Interested groups of providers and organizations must assess their readiness and begin working to meet key readiness criteria for implementation

Step 2 – Validating Provider Readiness

Based on self-assessments, groups of providers are identified by the MOHLTC as being ‘in discovery’ or ‘in development’ stages of readiness

Step 3 - Becoming an Ontario Health Team ‘Candidate’

Groups of providers that demonstrate, through a full application, (which may only be submitted on invitation) that they meet key readiness criteria are selected to begin implementation of the Ontario Health Team Model

Step 4 - Becoming a Designated Ontario Health Team

Ontario Health Team candidates that are ready to receive an integrated funding envelope and enter into an Ontario Health Team accountability agreement with the funder can be designated as an Ontario Health Team.

Ontario Health Teams: Scope

Services that fall within the scope of Ontario Health Teams include:

- primary care (including inter-professional primary care and physicians);
- secondary care (e.g., in-patient and ambulatory medical and surgical services (includes specialist services));
- home care;
- community support services;
- mental health and addictions;
- health promotion and disease prevention;
- rehabilitation and complex care;
- palliative care (e.g., hospice);
- residential care and short-term transitional care (e.g. supportive housing, long-term care homes, retirement homes);
- long-term care home placement;
- emergency health services;
- laboratory and diagnostic services;
- midwifery services; and
- other social and community services and other services, as needed by the population.

Next Steps:

Providers across Niagara have started to explore the feasibility of submitting a readiness assessment.

The following timelines have been provided by the MOHLTC:

May 15, 2019	Deadline to submit self-assessments
June 3, 2019	Selected groups will be invited to submit a full application
July 12, 2019	Deadline to submit full applications
Fall 2019	Announce Ontario Health Teams

After the first wave of announcements the MOHLTC will continue to accept, assess and evaluate groups interested in becoming an Ontario Health Team. Regional staff will provide further updates further to local implications as information becomes available.

Alternatives Reviewed

N/A

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

N/A – Pending the development of Council's new Strategic Priorities.

Other Pertinent Reports

COM C 1—2019 Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Announcement: 'New Plan for Health Care Reform'

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