

## **New Intensive Transitional Treatment Program will support patients in need of acute Mental Health services towards more successful transitions**

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### **NEWS**

Patients dealing with mental health concerns will soon benefit from services offered through a new Intensive Transitional Treatment Program (ITTP) at Kingston General Hospital (KGH).

Developed through the South East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) Clinical Services Roadmap, ITTP focuses on reducing the number of readmissions to the Emergency Department for Addictions and Mental Health care. It will provide outpatient services for patients in need of coordinated Addiction and Mental Health treatment over a concentrated period of time, often soon after discharge from the hospital.

Funded through the South East LHIN, the program aims to provide much needed intensive care to better support patients dealing with serious mental health concerns. The implementation of ITTP will also help to ensure higher transition success as patients move from an acute care setting to a less intensive level of care or to community support services while reducing current pressures on inpatient wards.

Ensuring patients remain healthy in their community after an acute care episode is part of Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care and its commitment to provide the right care, at the right time, and in the right place.

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### **QUOTES**

"The Intensive Transitional Treatment Program demonstrates the Ontario Government's commitment to improve the transitions of patients from the hospital to the community through increased supports. Better coordination amongst addictions and mental health services will ensure these patients are receiving the support and treatment they require during a time when they are most at risk".

- John Gerretsen, MPP, Kingston and the Islands

"The new service is testament to the patient-centered approach at Kingston General Hospital. This service will offer a positive addition to the range of services available to patients with mental illness throughout the region. It is the culmination of the effort of many dedicated people."

- Richard Jewitt, Program Operational Director, Mental Health & Medicine, Kingston General Hospital

"The Intensive Transitional Treatment Program will provide relief for patients dealing with an acute mental health episode, as they will be returning home healthier with a coordinated support from the community service providers."

- Paul Huras, CEO, South East LHIN

**QUICK FACTS**

- Currently, 160 patients are accessing mental health services per month via the Emergency Department at KGH. 50 per cent require admission for complex-acute and specialty care.
- The Ontario average 30-day readmission rate for people with mental health issues is approximately 13 per cent.

**For more information contact:**

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