

Media Advisory / Avis aux Médias

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For Immediate Release

Ensuring patients receive the most appropriate level of care part of new integrated surgical care system.

On Wednesday, September 19, 2012 the seven hospitals in the South East region along with the South East Community Care Access Centre (SE CCAC) and the South East Local Health Integration Network (SE LHIN) signed an agreement to support a regional system of integrated surgical care within the South East LHIN.

The new system which supports collaboration across the South East region will work to reduce surgery wait times and cancellations. Effective management of call coverage will also ensure that surgical staffing needs are met across the region.

Transfer of information in regards to patient records, test results (e.g., diagnostic and laboratory), medications and other pertinent patient-related information will provide information needed for the planning and evaluation of surgical services and assist to eliminate unnecessary duplication of diagnostic services requests between sites.

By developing priority protocols the system will provide timely and seamless transfer of patients between institutions and work to give the most appropriate level of care at the patient 'home hospital' wherever possible.

This concept of integrating surgical care within the SE LHIN is a result of extensive collaboration and thoughtful discussion amongst the physicians, nurses and administrators of all of the partner organizations.

The regional system of integrated care is another step forward for the SE LHIN's clinical services roadmap. Launched in July, 2010, the Clinical Services Roadmap was created to find better ways of providing improved access to care for residents across this region; to cut down on the red tape patients have to deal with in moving from one caregiver to another; and to ensure that hospitals and the CCAC can integrate their services to fill the gaps and deliver a more seamless continuum of care region-wide.

For further details please contact:

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