Primary Care Advisory Council

Ontario Health West

Meeting Highlights | August 14, 2023

The Ontario Health West Primary Care Advisory Council will meet monthly to work together to improve access to Primary Care in OH West. Members include Regional Primary Care Leads, OHT Primary Care Leads, Nurse Practitioner Led Clinics, CHCs, Community Pharmacy, Community Paramedicine, Indigenous representatives, OH West Patient & Family Advisory Committee representative and OH West Region team.

Council Member Input on Key Success Factors, Barriers & Suggestions for Upcoming Work:

What are the key success factors to achieve Primary Care Advisory Council goals?	What are the key barriers to the development of action plans?	What are key suggestions to achieve successful implementation of action plans?
• Clinical engagement	• Need for local goals for attachment	• Support of OHTs for implementation
• Action oriented system planning with support tools and realistic expectations	• High workload demands	• Opportunities for feedback

What makes a primary care patient clinically complex?

A roundtable discussion related to factors impacting complexity included:

- Patient complexity due to clinical conditions and/or unexpected life events
- Patients impacted by social determinants of health, i.e., poverty, unhoused/homeless.
- "Patients who you worry about."
- Availability and timeliness to additional services

Fall/Winter Preparedness for Primary Care:

In preparation for the 2023-24 fall/winter surge for respiratory infections this year, a roundtable discussion was held.

Discussion included:

- After hours approaches for patients
- Use of virtual visits
- Collaboration with Public Health Units
- Consistent public education during fall/winter surge

Four (4) Ontario Health West respiratory exercises will be held for each sub-region for fall/winter preparedness:

- South West – August 16, 2023
- Waterloo Wellington – August 17, 2023
- Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant – August 23, 2023
- Erie St. Clair – August 24, 2023

If members have questions or topics they would like discussed, please forward to co-chairs or OH West staff

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