

July 31, 2014

Dear colleague,

On March 28, 2013, the Assistant Deputy Minister, Negotiations and Accountability Management, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC), announced the formation of the Quality Management Partnership (the Partnership) in a memorandum stating that the Ministry:

...has asked Cancer Care Ontario (CCO) and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) to jointly develop a provincial quality management program in three areas: mammography, colonoscopy, and pathology. In these particular areas there is widespread agreement on the immediacy to address variability and gaps and ensure: (i) consistent, clinically-driven standards across the province; (ii) adequate supports, linkages and programs to promote adherence to those standards; and, (iii) system-wide reporting and measurement at all levels of care delivery. Mammography, colonoscopy and pathology share a foundation of substantial quality management activity already in the field from which to build on so it makes sense to focus on these three initially...

Our mandate is to engage in consultation and collaborate with clinical experts, system stakeholders, facilities and all other relevant stakeholders to develop provincial quality management programs.

The Phase 1 Report was submitted to the Ministry in March 2014, and we've included a copy of it with this communication. Please note that this report is now under consideration by the Ministry.

As co-sponsors of the Quality Management Partnership, we want to thank you for your participation in Phase 1 (April to December 2013) of this initiative. Your feedback has helped shape the report and recommendations, including the proposed Early Quality Initiatives (EQIs) that were incorporated into the Phase 1 Report.

Next steps

Throughout Phase 2 (April 2014 to March 2015), the Expert Advisory Panels are developing detailed design recommendations for their respective quality management programs. As well, implementation of the EQIs identified in Phase 1 will begin in 2014/15 pending Ministry approval.

As in Phase 1, we will continue to seek your input. From now until March 2015, we will keep you up-to-date on the initiative and invite you to participate in our consultation process targeted for October to December 2014. One of the main components of this process is a web-based consultation that will be open to all stakeholders. At the conclusion of

our consultations, there will be careful consideration of the information gathered, and then we will submit a Phase 2 Report to the Ministry by March 2015.

Your participation will ensure the quality management programs will be implemented with your input taken into consideration.

For more information, please visit our website at www.qmpontario.ca. To contact us, please email info@qmpontario.ca.

We thank you for your support and commitment to participating in this initiative to improve quality outcomes for patients in Ontario.

We would also like to thank the Expert Advisory Panels under the leadership of Clinical Leads Dr. Kathy Chorneyko, Pathology; Dr. David Morgan, Colonoscopy; and Dr. Rene Shumak, Mammography for their dedication and enthusiasm in moving this initiative forward. We are confident that through their leadership, we will continue to build upon the foundation developed in Phase 1.

Sincerely,



Michael Sherar, PhD, President and CEO
Cancer Care Ontario



Dr. Rocco Gerace, Registrar
College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario