

Connecting the DOHT

Holiday 2023 Edition

WHAT A YEAR!

Director Update

What an incredible year since I rejoined the Durham OHT! 2023 has brought a tremendous amount of success, opportunities, innovation, and most importantly working closely together to think differently to improve the system for our wonderful communities!

When I reflect back on the past year there is so much for us to be proud of. The current healthcare landscape is complex, ever-changing and full of potential for us through partnership to have collective impact. Through your shared commitment, passion and leadership we continue to make a difference in the lives of patients, clients and residents in the Durham Region.

From the strength of our coordinated regional response efforts, community outreach, Primary Care engagement and education, home and community care modernization, and most recently being selected as part of the initial 12 for OHT acceleration, we continue to build the Durham OHT!

A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated Durham OHT partners, family and care partner advisors, and physicians who continually collaborate with the OHT to make this important and meaningful work a possibility.

It is a privilege to work alongside and learn from this incredible OHT community! Wishing you and your families the warmest of holidays, and health and happiness in 2024!



New Team Member Alert

WELCOME SAMIAH KHAN

We were so excited to introduce Samiah Khan to the Durham OHT.

Samiah joined us in September as the Project Lead, Leading Practice, Home and Community Care Modernization. Samiah began her career in Healthcare back in 2012 and brings with her experience from with Canadian Red Cross, Home and Community Care Support Services, Lakeridge Health and Grand River Hospital. Welcome to the Team, Samiah!



Congratulations!



OHT Acceleration

THE INITIAL TWELVE

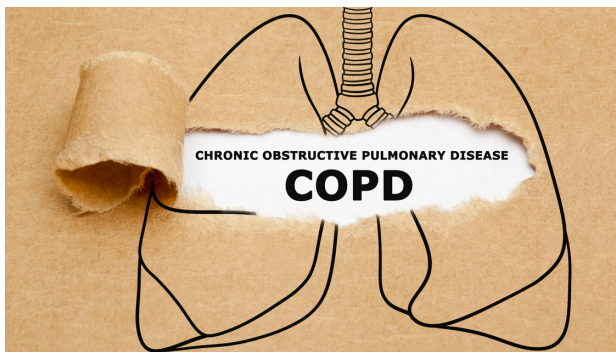
The Durham OHT is incredibly proud to have been selected as part of the "Initial 12 OHTs" to rapidly accelerate to maturity. This is a true testament to the unwavering leadership and collaboration of our partners from across the continuum of care. Congratulations to all!

The Honourable, Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones, provided the expectations and timelines of OHTs in advancing towards maturity, and selected for rapid advancement.

It has been indicated that the Ministry of Health and Ontario Health will release guidance, resources, and support for OHTs on key elements of The Path Forward, including primary care networks and governance starting in the New Year.

Stay tuned as we share information as it comes!

[WATCH THE FULL ANNOUNCEMENT](#)



Integrated Care Pathways

As part of the OHT Acceleration Integrated Care Pathways (ICPs) for COPD and CHF have been mandated as a core deliverable. Building on the success of the Durham OHT CHF program, we focusing our efforts to develop a regional COPD Program. An action plan was submitted to Ontario Health for approval in mid-December.

[COPD ACTION PLAN](#)



Primary Care Network Assessment and Action Plan

A strategic priority for OHT Acceleration is building the Primary Care Networks. The Durham OHT will be preparing a readiness assessment and action plan to support this deliverable. This work will commence in early 2024.

[GET INVOLVED](#)

Virtual Community Town Hall

November 16, 2023



Virtual Community Town Hall

KNOW YOUR OPTIONS FOR ACCESSING HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE IN DURHAM REGION

On November 16, 2023 we held our second Virtual Community Town Hall for 2023. Since January 2020, the Durham OHT has hosted four Virtual Community Town Halls where members of Durham Region could join online or by phone to hear from local health care leaders and ask questions about the OHT and the future of health care. In total there have been over 15,000 people in attendance.

Community members learned about options for accessing health care and related resources, and the Durham OHT heard where people were struggling to find information. It is our goal that by building an awareness of the Durham OHT and its Partners, individuals can feel empowered on their health care journeys knowing what is available and where to find timely access to care.

Going forward, the Durham OHT strives to enhance navigation tools to make this a reality. It is through your participation at events such as this that we can hear where the greatest needs are.

If you wish to join us at our next Virtual Community Town Hall, you can sign-up for our email notifications at doht.ca to keep informed as a date is announced. Thank you for your continued participation!

To listen to our last Town Hall, you can view on youtube.com/@DOHT

[WATCH NOW](#)



Stay Healthy This Holiday Season!

- If you are not well, call your doctor first. If they are closed, listen to their message for hours of operation
- Get advice from a nurse 24/7 and call 811 or online chat at health811.ontario.ca
- Your local pharmacist may be able to help! Call or visit your local pharmacy
- If you or your child are severely ill call 911 or go to your nearest emergency department



East Region Virtual Care Clinic

The East Region Virtual Care Clinic (ERVCC) will be open every day throughout the holidays from 1:00pm - 9:00pm. If you or your patient/client need to book an appointment you can call 1.888.684.1999 or use the link below.

[ERVCC WEBSITE](#)

Primary Care Corner

Action plan - The Path Forward

Primary Care engagement continues to be a core priority for the Durham OHT. The Durham OHT Primary Care Advisory Council developed a robust Primary Care Action Plan for 2023/24.

This Action Plan sets the stage for the vision of the delivery of Primary Care in the Region of Durham and aligns with the Provincial Vision, *"Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care"*.

There are 3 key areas of focus for the Durham OHT Primary Care Action Plan:

1. **Access and Capacity** to Primary Care & Health Care programs
2. **Physician Recruitment** and Retention: Integral to access & capacity
3. **Resources and Education**, geared towards primary care providers and the broader community

On June 6, 2023, the Durham OHT and Primary Care Network Durham hosted an event for Primary Care Providers to share the Action Plan and updates on work completed. The event was well attended and supported by Ontario Health's CEO, Matthew Anderson, and Medical Advisor, Dr. Elizabeth Muggah as well as Dr. Joel Kennedy, Chief, Department of Family and Community Medicine at Lakeridge Health.



Primary Care Co-Leads, from left to right, Dr. Rebecca Wray and Dr. Lubna Tirmizi



Chair, Durham OHT Executive Leadership Table
James Meloche



CEO, Ontario Health
Matthew Anderson



Patient Family and Care Partner Advisor
Bette Hodgins

Interest in Joining the Primary Care Network Durham ~ Contact us!

WWW.PRIMARYCARENETWORKDURHAM.CA

submissions@doht.ca

WWW.DOHT.CA

Partnership Spotlight

Integra LifeSciences

Integra LifeSciences (Integra) was founded in 1989 based on a vision to expand access to promising technology that enables the body to regenerate damaged or diseased tissue. Grounded on this vision, the company revolutionized the field of regenerative medicine and has since grown to be a leading global provider of neurosurgical solutions, regenerative technologies, and surgical instrumentation.

Integra now has a broad portfolio of products and solutions used for the management of multiple disease states, including brain tumors, traumatic brain injury, hydrocephalus, hemorrhagic stroke, and other neurological conditions. Their regenerative tissue technologies include products that address soft tissue, peripheral nerve and tendon repairs and are used for the treatment of acute and chronic wounds, burns, as well as for plastic and reconstructive surgery.

Integra LifeSciences is a global leader in regenerative tissue technologies and neurosurgical solutions dedicated to limiting uncertainty for clinicians, so they can focus on providing the best patient care. Integra offers a comprehensive portfolio of high quality, leadership brands that include AmnioExcel®, Bactiseal®, CerebroFlo®, CereLink®, Certas® Plus, Codman®, CUSA®, Cytal®, DuraGen®, DuraSeal®, Gentrix®, ICP Express®, Integra®, MatriStem® UBM, MAYFIELD®, MediHoney®, MicroFrance®, MicroMatrix®, PriMatrix®, SurgiMend®, TCC-EZ® and VersaTru®.

For the latest news and information about Integra and its products, please visit www.integralife.com.

Pamphlets and more information will be posted on the primarycarenetworkdurham.ca website.

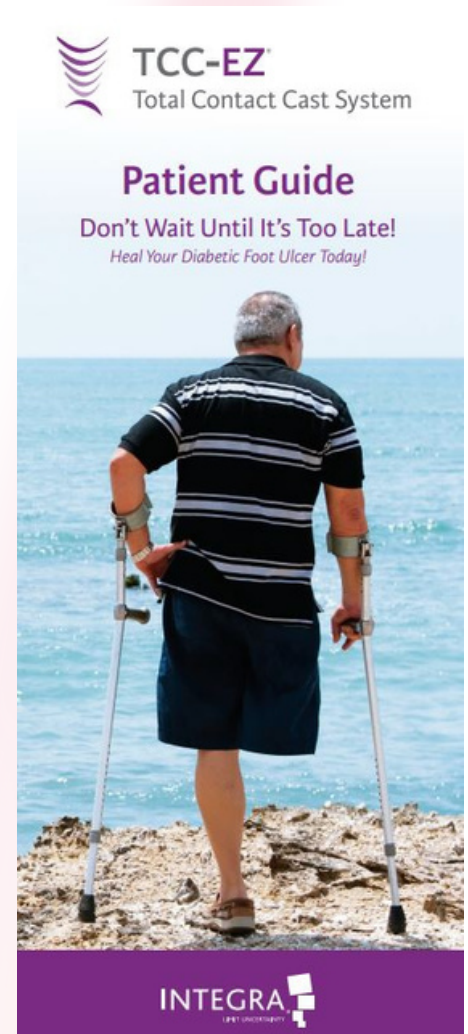
Recognizing those living with diabetes and the importance of the work at Integra, their team is interested in working with our clinicians to ensure they have access to educational information and treatment solutions to help improve the lives of patients in Durham Region.

What is a Diabetic Foot Ulcer?

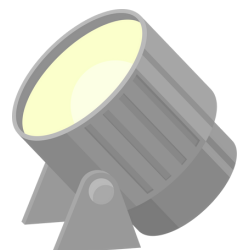
A diabetic foot ulcer (DFU) is an open sore or wound that occurs in approximately 15 percent of people with diabetes and is commonly located on the bottom of the foot. These sores or wounds range in size and depth and can even go all the way to the bone.

How Serious is a Diabetic Foot Ulcer?

Unfortunately, if left open, DFUs can become serious, placing you at risk for amputation and other life threatening conditions. The rate of wound closure is important in DFUs because the risk for developing complications increases the longer the wound stays open. Fortunately, proper treatment with early aggressive and effective management of the wound is the safest route to preventing complications before they occur.



[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Patient Family and Care Partner Advisors

Action in Motion

March 31, 2022 saw the launch of the Durham Ontario Health Team Patient, Family and Care Partner Advisory Council (PFCPAC).

Now, over a year in action, the PFCPAC has co-designed multiple projects including branding, integrated care pathways, home care modernization, and the development of the Primary Care Network Durham. Members of the PFCPAC are integrated into all structures and committees at the Durham OHT and contribute to the design and planning of projects and initiatives.

This group works together to improve access and the delivery of coordinated health services across Durham region by giving a voice to those with firsthand lived experience navigating the health system.

Engagement and partnering with patients, families and care partners is essential to all Durham OHT activities.

We are recruiting additional members if you or anyone you know is interested in joining the Durham OHT PFCPAC!



DURHAM
Ontario Health Team

Patient, Family and Care Partner Advisory Council
Seeking Members

DO YOU HAVE LIVED EXPERIENCE BEING A PATIENT, FAMILY MEMBER OR CARE PARTNER IN DURHAM REGION?

JOIN THE DURHAM OHT AND BECOME AN ADVISOR!

The Durham Ontario Health Team (OHT) is committed to community engagement with patients, families and care partners for the development of services provided in Durham Region.

WHAT ARE ONTARIO HEALTH TEAMS?

Ontario Health Teams (OHT) were developed to improve health and social care across Ontario with a focus on regional priorities.

The Durham OHT is comprised of a broad and diverse range of partners including local doctors, Lakeridge Health, mental health and addiction services, social support services, home and community care support services and long-term care.

These organizations work together in partnership with patients, families and care partners advisors to design and deliver the best quality care.

DO YOU WANT YOUR VOICE HEARD AND BE PART OF THE CHANGE IN OUR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SYSTEM?

CONTACT US!
If you are interested in applying, please contact us at submissions@doht.ca or visit www.doht.ca/get-involved for more information.

Your Community.
Your Health.
Your Voice.

 Durham OHT
 DurhamOHT
 Visit www.doht.ca

 SCAN ME



DURHAM
Ontario Health Team

GIVE THE GIFT OF Your Voice

Join the Durham OHT Patient, Family and Care Partner Advisory Council



Meet the Team



DURHAM ONTARIO HEALTH TEAM

MEMBERS WANTED!

PATIENT, FAMILY AND CARE PARTNER ADVISORY COUNCIL

YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR HEALTH, YOUR VOICE.

For more information, click here, or visit www.doht.ca/get-involved

Interested in Joining the PFCPAC ~ Contact us!

submissions@doht.ca