

2017

TORONTO CENTRAL SOUTH REGIONAL CANCER PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT



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MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT



Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz MD, FRCPC, FRCR (Hon)
Medical Director, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre and
Regional Vice President, CCO for Toronto Central South

We are pleased to present the 2017 Annual Report for the Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program (TRCP) South. This report presents the activities of the Toronto Central South community. We recognize the contributions of TRCP North and partners in the province that enable us to provide the best care for our patients. TRCP South is comprised of 22 clinical and program leaders who together with the hospital and community partners, collaborate to develop and implement program priorities guided by the Ontario Cancer Plan IV.

An extraordinary amount of exceptional work is underway in our region and this report highlights the many activities underway, acknowledges the leadership team and demonstrates the commitment of all our partners, membership and front line practitioners who contribute to providing quality, timely and safe care for our cancer patients.

In 2017, we identified 3 priorities for the TRCP including Complex Malignant Hematology (CMH), Cancer Screening and the First Nation, Inuit and Métis (FNIM) Program. The Princess Margaret Cancer Centre has the largest CMH program in the province and it expanded again in 2017 with the addition of 12 beds in a new unit built to deliver exceptional, safe and state-of-the art care for CMH patients. The Screening program focused on planning for the 2018 launch of the Fecal Immunochemistry Test for colorectal cancer screening including multiple stakeholder events, site specific impact analysis and team development to streamline and accommodate the screen positive patients in 2018. The FNIM program continues its work in the post reconciliation era to support ongoing education to our leaders, implementation of new policies to support Indigenous health and continuing to build productive relationships.

We would like to thank each of the leaders, members, partners and contributors to this report. Their continued dedication and drive for improvement through partnership, learning and initiative is evident throughout the report.

For more details about the TRCP, please visit www.trcp.ca.



Ms. Martha Wyatt
Director, Toronto Central South Regional Cancer
Program and Medical Affairs, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

PROGRAM OVERVIEW & HIGHLIGHTS

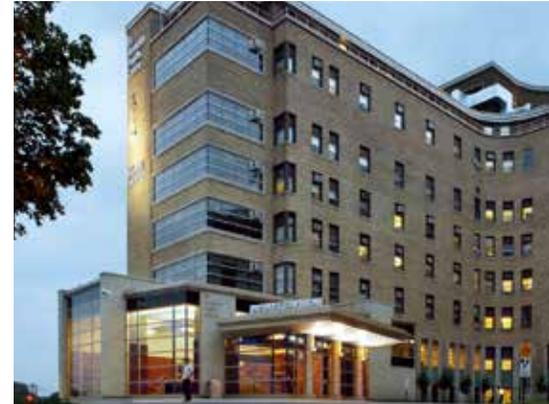
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program (TRCP) corresponds to the boundaries of the Toronto Central Local Health Integrated Network (LHIN) however, due to the size of the program and presence of two Cancer Centres, it is divided into North & South. The Regional Cancer Program is led by Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz, Regional Vice President, Toronto Central South and Dr. Calvin Law, Regional Vice President, Toronto Central North. While the two programs work in partnership, they have distinct performance targets and reporting relationships with Cancer Care Ontario (CCO).

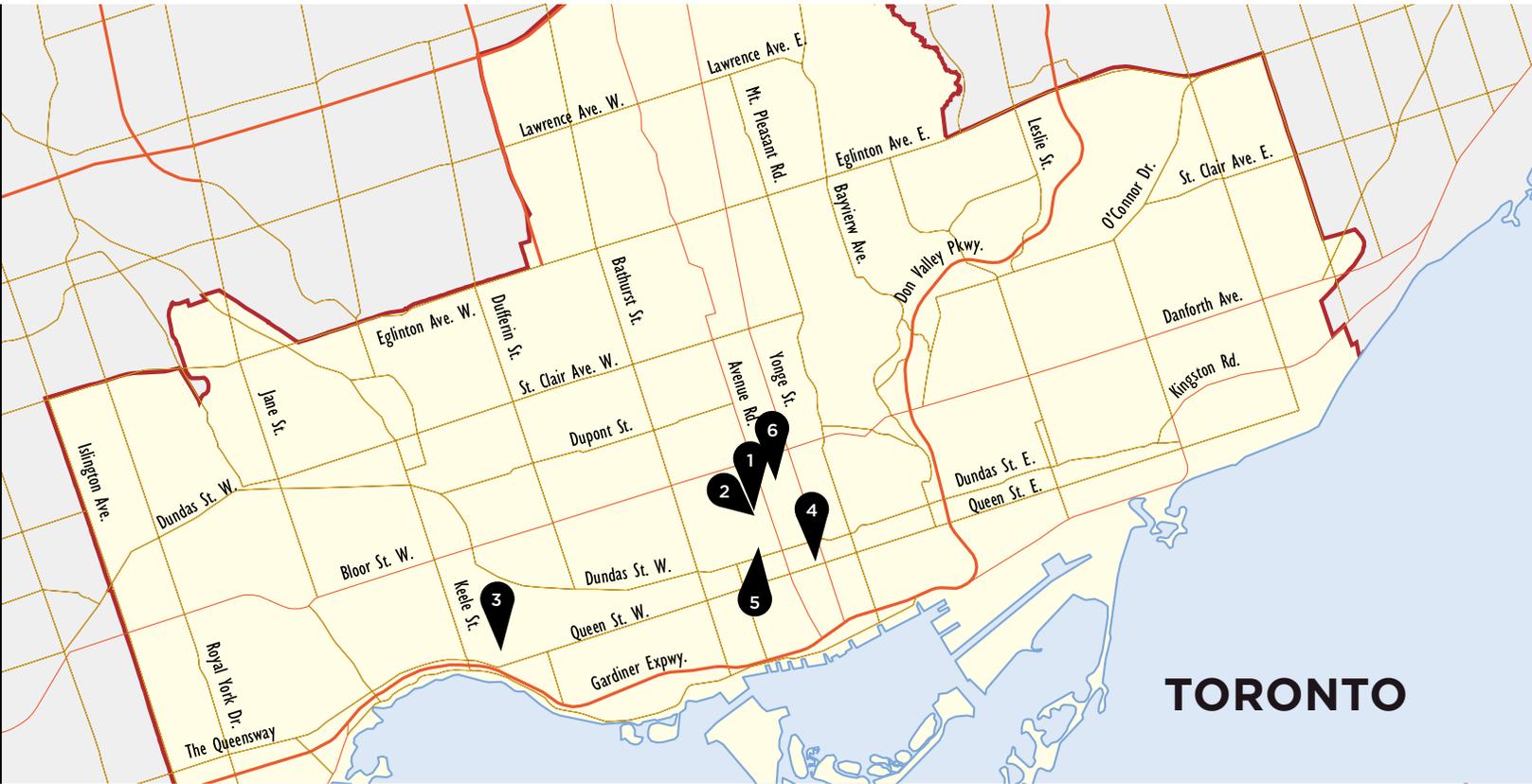
Regional Cancer Programs are responsible for:

- Implementing standard and programs
- Ensuring requirements and targets are met as planned in the partnership agreements
- Responding to local issues
- Coordination of care across regional providers
- Working to improve access to care, wait-times and quality

TRCP South is comprised of a Regional Cancer Centre, the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre at the University Health Network and four partner hospitals: St. Michael's Hospital, Sinai Health System, St. Joseph's Health Centre, and Women's College Hospital. We also collaborate and partner with the Toronto Central LHIN including the Home and Community Care Branch (previously the Community Care Access Centre) and the Canadian Cancer Society. This Annual Report describes the organizational structures, activities, and achievements of TRCP South in 2017. However, many programs and leadership roles are collaborative and integrated with TRCP North.



TORONTO CENTRAL LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATED NETWORK



TORONTO CENTRAL SOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

- 1 PRINCESS MARGARET CANCER CENTRE/UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK
- 2 MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL/SINAI HEALTH SYSTEM
- 3 ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTH CENTRE
- 4 ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL
- 5 TORONTO CENTRAL LHIN - HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE
- 6 WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL

TORONTO CENTRAL REGIONAL CANCER PROGRAM STRUCTURE



Prevention & Screening	Clinical Programs			
Cancer Screening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breast Screening Imaging Colorectal Screening & Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Cervical Screening & Colposcopy Primary Care Smoking Cessation	DIAGNOSTIC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pathology Staging Imaging Diagnostic Assessment Programs (DAP) 	TREATMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surgical Oncology Systemic Therapy Radiation Therapy 	PERSON-CENTRED CARE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nursing Ontario Cancer Symptom Management Collaborative Patient Education Psychosocial Oncology Indigenous Cancer Program	PALLIATIVE CARE Toronto Central Palliative Care Network

PROGRAM AND CLINICAL LEADERSHIP

Regional Vice President, Cancer Care Ontario
Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre/UHN

Director, Regional Cancer Program and Medical Affairs
Ms. Martha Wyatt, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre/UHN

Manager, Regional Cancer Program and Medical Affairs
Ms. Upasana Saha, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre/UHN

Administrative Assistant, Regional Cancer Program South
Ms. Anne Rodriguez-Hall, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre/UHN

Manager, Regional Cancer Program Screening Program (TRCP North & South)
Ms. Debbie Fisher-Holmes, Odette Cancer Centre/SHSC

Breast Imaging Lead (TRCP North & South)
Dr. Rene Shumak, Odette Cancer Centre/SFSC

Colorectal Screening & GI Endoscopy Lead (TRCP North & South)
Dr. Ian Bookman, St. Joseph's Health Centre

Cervical Screening & Colposcopy Lead (TRCP North & South)
Dr. Michael Shier, Odette Cancer Centre/SHSC

Primary Care Lead
Dr. Ed Kucharski, South East Toronto Family Health Team

Smoking Cessation Lead
Dr. Meredith Giuliani, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre/UHN

Pathology Lead
Dr. Runjan Chetty, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre/UHN (January to October 2017)
Dr. David Hwang, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre/UHN (October 2017 to present)

Cancer Imaging Program Lead
Dr. Martin O'Malley, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre/UHN

Diagnostic Assessment Program Leads
Ms. Terri Stuart-McEwan, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre/UHN
Dr. Fayeze Quereshi, Toronto General Hospital/UHN

Surgical Oncology Program Lead
Dr. Gelareh Zadeh, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre/UHN

Systemic Therapy Quality Lead
Dr. Eitan Amir, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre/UHN

Radiation Therapy Lead
Dr. Fei-Fei Liu, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre/UHN

Nursing Lead
Ms. Pamela Savage, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre/UHN

Patient Education Lead
Ms. Janet Papadakos, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre /UHN

Psychosocial Oncology Lead (TRCP North & South)
Ms. Susan Blacker, St. Michael's Hospital (January to May 2017) & Sinai Health System (May 2017 to present)

Aboriginal Cancer Lead (TRCP North & South)
Dr. Bernice Downey

Aboriginal Navigator (TRCP North & South)
Ms. Joanna Vautour, St. Michael's Hospital (January to September 2017)
Mr. Leonard Benoit, St. Michael's Hospital (December 2017 to present)

Palliative Care Clinical Co-Leads (North & South)
Ms. Susan Blacker, Sinai Health System
Dr. Kirsten Wentlant, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre /UHN

Palliative Care Administrative Lead (North & South)
Ms. Rose Cook, Director, Toronto Central Palliative Care Network

TORONTO CENTRAL REGIONAL CANCER STEERING COMMITTEE (NORTH & SOUTH)

The Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program Steering Committee is co-chaired by the two Regional Vice Presidents, Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz (TRCP South) and Dr. Calvin Law (TRCP North). The Steering Committee assists and guides the development and implementation of strategies to improve the delivery and quality of cancer services in the region. Key reports are received outlining activities and achievements against our goals and accountabilities.

Key areas of focus in 2017 included: system performance; hospital reports from Sinai Health Systems, St. Joseph's Health System and Michael Garron Hospital; progress in the development of the Toronto Central Palliative Care Network; Systemic Quality portfolio; Smoking Cessation; Cervix Screening and Colposcopy Program; Psychosocial Oncology, Ontario Cancer Plan IV progress; and Cancer Imaging.

CO-CHAIRS, REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz, Regional Vice President, CCO & Medical Director, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

Dr. Calvin Law, Regional Vice President, CCO & Chief, Odette Cancer Centre

Ms. Melissa Morey-Hollis, Administrative Director, Medicine, Seniors Care, Cancer Care, St. Joseph's Health Centre

Ms. Penny Walcott, Director, Surgery Health Service, Michael Garron Hospital

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Ms. Martha Wyatt, Director, Regional Cancer Program & Medical Affairs, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

Ms. Janice Stewart, Director, Operations & Regional Planning, Odette Cancer Centre

PARTNER ORGANIZATION MEMBERS

Ms. Kim Pearson, Director, Specialty Programs, Toronto Central CCAC/Home and Community Care, Toronto Central LHIN

Ms. Jan MacVinnie, Manager, Cancer Information Service, Canadian Cancer Society

Ms. Erin Scholl, Manager, Contracts and Performance, Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network

HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATIVE LEADS

Ms. Victoria Noguera, Clinical Director, Women's College Hospital

Ms. Susan Blacker, Director, Cancer Services Planning and Performance, St. Michael's Hospital (January to May 2017)

Ms. Sonya Canzian, Chief Nursing Executive, Interim Chief Health Disciplines Executive, EVP of Programs, and Director, St. Michael's Hospital (June 2017 to present)

Ms. Lisa Wayment, Senior Director Surgical Services, Sinai Health Systems

Ms. Susan Blacker, Senior Director, Cancer and Palliative Program Planning and Performance, Sinai Health Systems (May 2017 to present)

Ms. Marnie Escaf, Senior Vice President, UHN, & Executive Lead, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

Ms. Elena Holt, Administrative Program Director, Surgery/ Perioperative Services, St. Joseph's Health Centre

CANCER PROGRAM HOSPITAL CLINICAL LEADS

Dr. Jing Li, Medical Oncologist, Michael Garron Hospital

Dr. Ori Rotstein, Surgeon-in-Chief, St. Michael's Hospital

Dr. David Urbach, Surgeon-in-Chief, Women's College Hospital

Dr. Dorothy Lo, Medical Oncologist, St. Joseph's Health Centre

Dr. Jay Wunder, Surgeon-in-Chief, Sinai Health System

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Regional Clinical Leads

2017 TORONTO CENTRAL REGIONAL CANCER PROGRAM PRIORITIES

PRIORITY 1: COMPLEX MALIGNANT HEMATOLOGY

Optimize access to quality care for patients requiring Stem Cell Transplantation (SCT) at Princess Margaret

- Implemented SCT phase I expansion to meet our targeted 208 Allogeneic SCT in 18/19:
 - Opened new 12 bed Allogeneic SCT unit
 - New inpatient pharmacy opened
 - Commenced next generation sequencing for Human Leukocyte Antigen typing
- Shifted post-Allogeneic SCT Model of Care to enhance patient experience and flow
- Optimized patient transitions between leukemia and allogeneic SCT programs to shorten time-to-transplant intervals
- Refinement of a Patient Tracker tool designed to monitor wait-times, wait-lists and support reporting to Cancer Care Ontario (CCO)

Regional planning to support patients with Complex Malignant Hematology (CMH) diagnoses

- Implemented new shared care partnership to support day 1 Autologous SCT transfers
- Continued participation in provincial CMH planning with the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and CCO oversight committees as governance structures evolved
- Focused on regional planning with Odette Cancer Centre and Toronto Central LHIN to support the development of the vision of one program, 2 sites, in the Toronto Central LHIN
- Acute leukemia regional planning submission completed for CCO with a collaborative approach involving Odette Cancer Centre and shared care sites
- Collaborated with the nascent leukemia program at Odette Cancer Centre to harmonize regional acute leukemia referrals, diagnostic and treatment approaches, philosophies of care, and access to clinical trials, to ensure equality in patient care across the Greater Toronto Area
- Supported hiring of new leukemia staff at Odette Cancer Centre by providing training and ongoing mentorship by Princess Margaret clinical team members

PRIORITY 2: CANCER SCREENING

Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) transition planning

- Developed a region-wide standardized two day split-bowel preparation for FIT positive patients
- Information nights created awareness in Toronto Central LHIN Endoscopists for redirection of inappropriately received referrals
- Established a Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) Implementation Working Group consisting of: Primary Care Regional Lead, Indigenous Program Regional Lead, Facility Leads for GI Endoscopy, Surgery and the Diagnostic Assessment Program and representation from Out of Hospital Premises to oversee the planning, implementation and evaluation of the introduction of FIT
- Engaged in both local and provincial planning (and awareness raising)

Primary Care FIT awareness

- Primary Care lead worked with regional colposcopy and endoscopy leads on educational events for primary care, with a focus on appropriate referrals and follow-up care after discharge



PRIORITY 3: REGIONAL INDIGENOUS CANCER PROGRAM

The Toronto Central Region is complex with multiple care sites. In 2017, a key goal of the Toronto Central Region - Indigenous Cancer Program (TCR-ICP) was to enhance awareness and implementation of program activities with a strategic approach. The intent was to expand the reach of our Indigenous team to care sites that would benefit from a more active and collaborative engagement with our team. A key objective of this strategy was to increase awareness among our care site partners about the role of our Indigenous Navigator, thereby, addressing access-to-care barriers for First Nations, Inuit and Métis (FNIM) people in the region. We look forward to implementing this strategy over the next year.

Education and awareness activities continue to be a mainstay element of the TCR-ICP. In this post Truth and Reconciliation Commission period, the promotion of self-determining pathways of systemic change that align with the spirit and intent of the Aboriginal Cancer Strategy -III guides our strategic priorities. The promotion of cultural safety and equity-based policy reform continue to be an aspirational focus of our engagement with care sites with an over-arching goal of enhancing the cancer care experience for First Nations, Inuit and Métis people and their families.

In partnership with regional hospitals and community organizations, the TCR-ICP made progress in advancing the goals and objectives. Highlights include:

- Formalized the TRCP Indigenous Cancer Plan and interim sustainable engagement structure through meetings with community organizations
- Hosted an inaugural celebration of the National Indigenous Peoples Day at Princess Margaret
- Promoted awareness of screening in the Indigenous community through train the trainer sessions for community organizations and multiple health fairs
- Successful regional leadership event strengthened understanding and support of the reconciliation calls to action
- Supported the development of the UHN smudging policy working group and newly formed UHN Indigenous Council

TORONTO CENTRAL SOUTH STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS



DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING
85,397
 Total MRI case volumes
138,674
 Total CT case volumes



NURSING
100%

Percentage of nurses in the systemic therapy suite who have completed the designated deSouza Institute Chemotherapy and Biotherapy Program



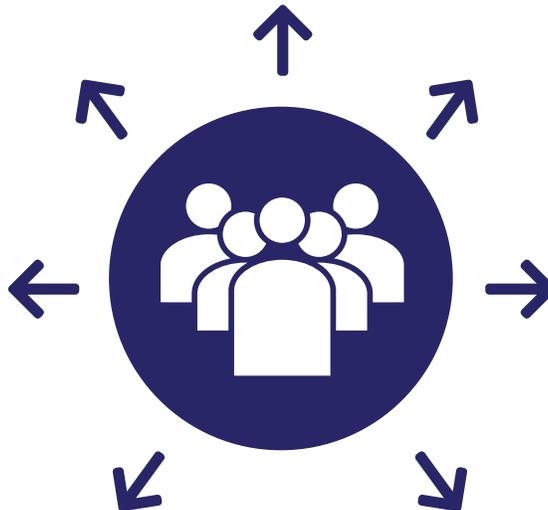
PSYCHOLOGICAL ONCOLOGY (PM ONLY)

922
 Number of new patient visits to a Dietitian
83%
 Percentage of patients to see a Dietitian within 14 days



PATHOLOGY
4,411
 Volumes

73%
 Turnaround time in 14 days



MULTIDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE COMPLIANCE

87%



SCREENING (TRCP NORTH & SOUTH)

61%
 Percentage of screen-eligible women, 50-74 years old, who completed at least one mammogram within a 30-month period

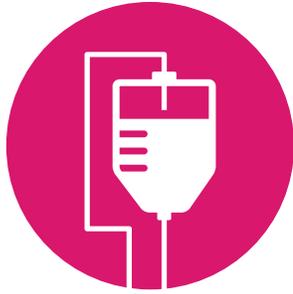
62%
 Percentage of women, 30-69 years old, screened with an OBSP MRI or ultrasound within 90 days of confirmation of high risk status (January to October 2017)



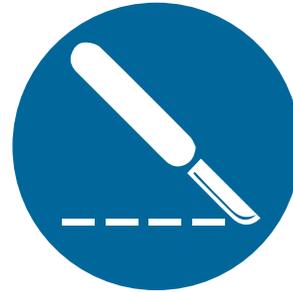
SMOKING CESSATION (PM ONLY)

54%
 Percentage of new ambulatory cancer cases that were screened for tobacco use

20%
 Percentage accepted a smoking cessation referral among smokers



9,128
SYSTEMIC CONSULTS



9,567
CANCER SURGERIES

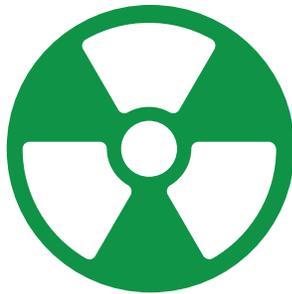
**SYSTEMIC CONSULT VOLUMES
FISCAL YEAR 2016/17**

Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, UHN	7,015
Sinai Health System	852
St. Joseph's Health Centre	234
St. Michael's Hospital	1,027
Total	9,128

**CANCER SURGERY VOLUMES
FISCAL YEAR 2016/2017**

	Quality Based Procedure Volumes*	Cancer Surgery Agreement Volumes
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, UHN	1,585	2,844
Sinai Health System	990	1,227
St. Joseph's Health Centre	297	567
St. Michael's Hospital	673	742
Women's College Hospital	573	119
Total	4,118	5,499

* Colorectal, Prostate, Thyroid & Breast



10,632
COURSES OF RADIATION

91%

Percentage of radical courses peer reviewed
at Princess Margaret
Cancer Centre

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS

PREVENTION & SCREENING (NORTH & SOUTH)

CANCER SCREENING

The Toronto Central Regional Cancer Screening Program supports, monitors, and educates providers and the community to improve participation in breast, colorectal and cervical cancer screening.

Our regional leads fill a critical role in capacity planning and improving the quality, safety, and accessibility of cancer screening services in Toronto. Work continues across the region to further build capacity for public and provider education and awareness through community engagement, stakeholder partnerships, and workplace strategies.



Ms. Debbie Fisher-Holmes
Manager,
Regional Cancer Screening Program,
TRCP North & South

HEALTH PROMOTION:

- Led the development of cancer prevention and screening modules for peer leader training initiatives
- Collaborated with community agencies and Toronto Public Health in various priority neighbourhoods to deliver colorectal, breast, and cervical prevention and screening training to community peer leaders
- Promoted the Cancer Prevention and Screening Awareness in the Workplace toolkit through workplace associations. Attended 8 workplace health fairs, led 4 presentations and 6 displays at several hospitality, healthcare, education, and private sector companies impacting 428 employees
- Supported colorectal, breast and cervical awareness campaigns by disseminating materials through fax broadcasts and emails to over 1300 stakeholders including primary care providers, hospitals, and community agencies
- In partnership with the Indigenous Cancer Program, led a train the trainer workshop for Indigenous community agencies to support the delivery of cancer prevention and screening messaging to their communities directly



Dr. Rene Shumak
Breast Imaging Lead,
TRCP North & South



Dr. Ian Bookman
Colorectal Screening
& GI Endoscopy Lead,
TRCP North & South



Dr. Ed Kucharski
Primary Care Lead



Dr. Michael Shier
Cervical Screening
& Colposcopy Lead,
TRCP North & South



BREAST IMAGING (NORTH & SOUTH)

- Supported the implementation of the Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) Mammography Equipment Quality Assurance at the OBSP sites
- Implemented a breast assessment quality improvement initiative at 16 OBSP screening sites
- On-boarded new OBSP site at Michael Garron Hospital

COLORECTAL SCREENING AND GASTROINTESTINAL (GI) ENDOSCOPY (NORTH & SOUTH)

- Created a Regional Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) Readiness and FIT Implementation Working Groups with leadership from Primary Care, GI Facilities, Diagnostic Assessment Program, Indigenous Program, Surgery and Out of Hospital Premises to oversee the planning, implementation and evaluation related to the introduction of FIT
- Collaborated with DAP leadership to incorporate FIT screening in referral forms
- Develop regional standardized split-dosed bowel preparation instructions
- Supported the implementation of the GI Endoscopy Data Submission Portal (DSP) at seven hospital sites

CERVICAL SCREENING & COLPOSCOPY (NORTH & SOUTH)

- Presented at Sinai Health System's Everyday Gynecology on Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Testing and cervical screening now and in the future
- Presented on CCO's Colposcopy Guidance Document and primary cervical screening at University of Toronto, St. Michael's Hospital's Annual Women's Health Day and Cancer Care Ontario's Pathology community of practice event on the current state of HPV testing in gynecology
- Participated in Cervical Cancer Care Awareness Week and open house pap test clinic at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

PRIMARY CARE

- Continued publication of local Primary Care Cancer Update Newsletters, one television appearance and wrote an article in The Toronto Star
- Developed and published a Colorectal Cancer Screening Module for Primary Care with McMaster's Problem Based Small Group Learning Series. Commenced planning for a colorectal cancer and breast cancer survivorship module in the same series. Modules are used locally, provincially and nationally by thousands of primary care providers
- Supported and participated in local primary care research for cancer screening of marginalized communities, prostate cancer survivors, and primary care providers' use of CCO's Screening Activity Report
- Developed a self-learning smoking cessation module, with CCO, for health care providers
- Engaged three physician practices to participate in a Quality Improvement Project to improve their cancer screening rates
- Collaborated with regional stakeholders to support continuing medical education and provided education about cancer care through 11 events

SMOKING CESSATION

The CEASE platform is integrated with the Distress Assessment and Response Tool (DART) – a symptom management tool at the Princess Margaret. Patients are screened for their smoking status, and current smokers are provided with tailored patient education materials on the benefits of smoking cessation, and referrals to cessation services are facilitated. In 2017, the Smoking Cessation Program successfully sustained CEASE, introduced 6-month follow-up reassessments and translated CEASE into 5 priority languages.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Approximately 60% of new cancer patients were screened. Of those who are smokers approximately 18% are taking advantage of smoking cessation services
- 6-month reassessment data was collected and is currently being analyzed
- CEASE was translated into 5 major languages, and is pending launch in 2018: Spanish, Chinese, Russian, Portuguese and Italian
- CEASE has been adapted and implemented in a lung cancer screening research program at Princess Margaret
- Worked with St. Michael's Hospital Inner City Family Health Team to support their development of a similar model to CEASE to target and improve the health of those at high risk for lung cancer



Dr. Meredith Giuliani
Smoking Cessation Lead

The fourth annual community of practice event was held in November 2017, co-hosted by the TRCP Patient Education program. The event was attended by 43 people and the key topics included:

- Strategies to improve tobacco use screening and cessation referrals: learnings from Ontario's Regional Cancer Programs
- Tailoring smoking cessation interventions for complex clients
- How many attempts does it take to quit smoking? The role of health professionals
- Translating clinical guidelines to patient education resources
- Integrating clinical guidelines and patient education resources into practice
- Health literacy and cancer communication

DIAGNOSIS



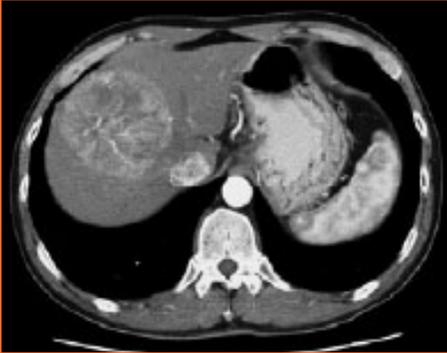
Dr. Martin O'Malley
Cancer Imaging Lead

CANCER IMAGING

The Cancer Imaging Program (CIP) continues to expand its work on imaging appropriateness, access, standardization, and participation in provincial advisory committees. Provincially, the CIP is part of the High-Risk Lung Cancer Screening pilot program with low-dose computed tomography (CT) that was launched at 3 sites in 2017.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- The Provincial Plan for Focal Tumor Ablation (FTA) Services was released by CCO. Local Imaging experts on the Interventional Oncology Steering Committee include the Chair, Dr John Kachura, Vascular Interventional Radiology, Joint Department of Medical Imaging
- Focal Tumor Ablation provider and referral services for liver, kidney and lung tumors have been implemented in our LHIN
- Guidance for Kyphoplasty and Vertebroplasty for Cancer Patients in Ontario: Recommendations Report 2017 was published. Local imaging experts contributed to the Report including the Chair, Dr Roger Smith, Interventional Neuroradiologist, Joint Department of Medical Imaging
- Local radiology experts contributed imaging expertise to the Disease Management Pathways for Oropharyngeal Cancer and Thyroid Cancer, both available on the CCO website



A one-day course on Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC): Role of the Radiologist was held in May 2017 and attended by 121 participants from across Ontario. Led by Drs. Martin O'Malley and Korosh Khalili, objectives of the course included:

- Standardized approaches to screening with ultrasound
- Developed approaches to triage findings on screening liver ultrasound
- Optimized CT and MRI liver protocols for the detection and diagnosis of HCC and important associated findings
- Standardized reporting of findings and treatment options including radiofrequency ablation (RFA) and transarterial chemoembolization (TACE)

PATHOLOGY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

Dr. Runjan Chetty stepped down as Regional Lead of the Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Program after serving in this role for over 2 years, and was replaced in October 2017 by Dr. David M. Hwang. Dr. David Hwang is a thoracic pathologist at the University Health Network, and Professor in the Department of Laboratory Medicine & Pathobiology at the University of Toronto. Dr. Hwang has served in a number of Cancer Care Ontario working groups, and as Chair of the Lung Pathology and Staging Expert Review Panel for the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer.



Dr. Runjan Chetty
Pathology Lead
(January to October 2017)

In 2017, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine in the Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program continued to focus on striving to meet CCO Turnaround Time guidelines, while preparing for implementation of the 8th edition of the American Joint Committee on Cancer/Union for International Cancer Control TNM Staging Classification. We also continue to be at the forefront of advanced cancer diagnostics in the form of ancillary molecular and other biomarker testing.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- New College of American Pathologists checklists incorporating the 8th edition TNM Staging Classification were prepared and piloted for some body sites in 2017, with full implementation planned for early 2018
- Improvements in pathology turnaround times (TAT) for cancer resections at Sinai Health System and St. Joseph's Health Centre compared to 2016, with continued maintenance of TATs exceeding CCO performance targets at St. Michael's Hospital, and creation of a new pathologist assistant position at University Health Network, with a view towards improving TAT
- Continued building of effective working relationships and co-ordination between clinicians and pathologists in the region
- Ongoing development and implementation of biomarker tests in support of precision medicine, including continued improvements in next-generation sequencing based testing in several tumor sites, and first-in-Canada implementation at UHN of blood cell-free DNA testing for EGFR T790M resistance mutations in lung cancer



Dr. David Hwang
Pathology Lead
(October 2017 to present)

A community of practice event was held jointly with Toronto Central North in March 2017, titled "Beyond the Pathological Platitudes of Gynecologic Pathology: Selected Topics". The event was aimed at better understanding the role of pathology and cytology in (1) Molecular testing for HPV in cervical cancer screening; (2) Mesonephric adenocarcinoma of the cervix; and (3) Intra-operative consultations for mucinous ovarian tumours. The speakers included two gynecologic pathologists (Drs. J. Mirkovic & B. Djordjevic) and the Toronto Central Regional Lead, cervical screening/colposcopy (Dr. M. Shier), with each presenting an update of the current state of diagnostics and recommended guidelines in these areas, followed by discussion.



Dr. Fayez Quereshy
Regional DAP Lead



Ms. Terri Stuart-McEwan
Regional DAP Lead

DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

The TRCP South Diagnostic Assessment Program (DAP) continues to support Cancer Care Ontario backed Lung and Colorectal DAPs in our region. The objective of these programs are to reduce delays in diagnosis and improve coordination of services. Patients in the DAP pathway have access to a multidisciplinary team including a navigator to provide a single point of contact for patients. Participating sites are University Health Network (colorectal and lung), St. Michael's Hospital (colorectal) and Sinai Health System (Colorectal). This year, Primary Care continued to promote DAP awareness and referrals through primary care educational events, newsletters and social media.

REGIONAL UPDATE FOR COLORECTAL DAPS:

- Developed community of practice within Toronto Central LHIN with involvement of gastroenterology as partners in care
- Systematic planning for Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) implementation in the province and the development of a coordinated institution-based strategy to managing FIT-positive patients. Collaboration between gastroenterology and surgery to integrate with the DAP process

UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK (COLORECTAL DAP):

- Implementation of an electronic patient management system that monitors wait times along the patient care journey. It provides a single dashboard that collates information with flags signaling system performance
- Implementation of a smart-phone application to help in perioperative preparation through partnership with SeamlessMD. This application integrates with our DAP program and helps transition patients from the diagnostic to therapeutic phase of management

ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL (COLORECTAL DAP):

- The Diagnostic Assessment Program (DAP) navigator role was integrated into the Gastrointestinal Endoscopy service

SINAI HEALTH SYSTEM (COLORECTAL DAP):

- Continued to build seamless pathways to support primary care providers in accessing the DAP for patients
- Redesigned DAP website, which can be accessed by going to the Mount Sinai hospital website and searching *Colorectal DAP*

TREATMENT

SURGICAL ONCOLOGY

The Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program South Surgical Program continued to focus on advancing interdisciplinary quality programs across the region in partnership with our North colleagues. To this end, the TRCP Surgical Oncology committee continued to meet quarterly to review and discuss best practices to achieve volume and wait time performance, and discuss opportunities for quality improvement. Membership includes both administrative and surgical leadership from each centre. Some of the achievements and activities are highlighted below:

- Wait 1 (referral to consult) performance is 86%
- Wait 2 (date of decision to operate to date of operation) performance is 87%, just below the provincial target of 90%
- Data quality improvement underway to ensure accurate reporting and results
- Community of Practice events were held for Bladder, CNS and Breast to discuss regional performance, research and emerging issues
- Resolving miscoding and ensuring consistent coding practice across all sites



Dr. Gelareh Zadeh
Surgical Oncology Lead

TORONTO CENTRAL REGIONAL CANCER PROGRAM SURGICAL ONCOLOGY COMMITTEE (NORTH & SOUTH)

Princess Margaret /UHN	Mr. Scott McIntaggart Ms. Mary Ann Neary Ms. Martha Wyatt Dr. Gelareh Zadeh (Co-Chair)
Women's College	Ms. Victoria Noguera Dr. John Semple
St. Michael's Hospital	Ms. Susan Blacker (January to May 2017) Ms. Joyce Fenuta (April 2017 to present) Dr. Ori Rotstein
Sinai Health System	Ms. Lisa Wayment Ms. Susan Blacker (May 2017 to present) Dr. Jay Wunder
Odette/SHSC	Dr. Danny Enepekides (Co-Chair) Ms. Janice Stewart
St. Joseph's Health Centre	Dr. Chris Compeau Ms. Elena Holt
Michael Garron Hospital	Ms. Penny Walcott Dr. Rob Zeldin



Dr. Eitan Amir
Systemic Therapy Quality Lead

SYSTEMIC TREATMENT

2017 was a successful year for the Systemic Therapy Program in Toronto Central South. The region has continued to address the human resource challenges during the year maintaining and improving its performance in wait-time targets.

The Toronto Central South Regional Systemic Therapy committee continued to meet on a quarterly basis to provide a forum for leading regional systemic quality improvement activities in alignment with evidence based standards, sharing information, discussing challenges and opportunities, fostering collaboration, and providing overall direction for systemic therapy within the Toronto Central South region. Representation on this committee includes nursing, pharmacy, physician and administrative leadership to foster a more comprehensive leadership.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Secured additional funding for physicians to help deal with the quantitative increase in systemic therapy volumes (especially in complex malignant hematology) as well as the increasing complexity of care of delivering systemic therapy across most disease sites
- All regional hospitals participated in a re-audit of patient understanding of how to access out of hours advice for symptom management. This was a follow-up audit in response to changes to patient education initiated after the first audit, which was completed in 2016. Quality improvement initiatives included website refresh, detailed and specific patient education regarding contact and symptom management
- Consolidated regional toxicity management programs with the formation or expansion of a cardio-oncology and nephro-oncology program in collaboration with cardiology and nephrology respectively
- The region has also been a provincial leader in preparation for therapeutic bio-similars which will be entering the market in the near future and require a different prescribing and dispensing process than generic versions of chemical medicines
- Continued outreach between all partner sites relating to Activity-Level Reporting and Quality-Based Procedure funding which was initiated in 2014, with improvements to data quality

TORONTO CENTRAL REGIONAL CANCER PROGRAM SOUTH SYSTEMIC TREATMENT PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Princess Margaret/UHN

Dr. Eitan Amir (Chair)
 Ms. Celina Dara
 Ms. Marina Kaufman
 Ms. Rita Kwong
 Ms. Upasana Saha
 Ms. Pamela Savage
 Ms. Terri Stuart-McEwan
 Ms. Martha Wyatt

St. Michael's Hospital

Ms. Susan Blacker (January to May 2017)
 Ms. Joyce Fenuta (May 2017 to present)
 Dr. Christine Brezden-Masley
 Ms. Ruth Law
 Ms. Charmaine Mothersill

Sinai Health System

Dr. Ron Burkes
 Mr. Andrew Han (January 2017)
 Ms. Loretta Lau
 Ms. Lisa Wayment
 Ms. Susan Blacker (May 2017 to present)

St. Joseph's Health Centre

Mr. Jiten Jani
 Dr. Dorothy Lo
 Ms. Melissa Morey-Hollis
 Ms. Sheila McEwen

RADIATION THERAPY

The TRCP South Radiation Medicine Program, led by Dr. Fei-Fei Liu at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre is committed to providing the best practice of patient-centred care, while achieving volume and wait time performance. Inspired by our Vision of Precision Radiation Medicine. Personalized Care. Global Impact. the Radiation Medicine Program (RMP) continues to focus on improving patient care and outcomes through innovations in research, education, clinical practice and system operations. Some of the achievements and activities from the past year are highlighted below:



Dr. Fei-Fei Liu
Radiation Therapy Lead

- Significant growth continues for the program’s clinical activities with 8250 patient consultations and 10,630 courses of radiation treatment in 2017- the highest number of courses ever delivered. The number of visits to the Radiation Nursing Clinic for symptom and side effect management also increased to approximately 7300 visits
- RMP continued to exceed CCO Performance Metrics and provincial averages for wait times and peer review. RMP’s compliance rate for referral-to-consult within 14 days was 86.6% and ready-to-treat to treatment start within 14 days was 92.4%
- Ongoing successful collaborations continue with St. Michael’s Hospital, St. Joseph’s Health Centre, Women’s College Hospital, Michael Garron Hospital and Southlake Regional Health Centre, including participation in MCCs, new patient clinics, in-patient consultations and cross-appointments of physicians. These collaborations improve access to high quality radiation therapy for patients in the region and beyond
- Current initiatives to improve utilization, especially for palliation, include relationship building with referring specialists, family physicians and community partners, as well as formalizing existing partnerships. The formal collaboration established with the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) has enhanced RVH’s access to integrated, high precision, patient-centered care for locally advanced cervical cancer patients requiring brachytherapy from the North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN
- In collaboration with the Hospital for Sick Children, CCO and Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario, RMP advocated to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) for the development of a Proton Beam Therapy facility in downtown Toronto for Ontario patients; a planning grant requesting funding to develop a business case and master space plan has been submitted to MOHLTC
- The well-received RMP ConneXions Newsletter, which serves as a vehicle to facilitate communication with our regional partners, continues to be developed and distributed (available at www.radiationatpm.com). ConneXions features clinical and research advances within RMP that can benefit patients, ranging in topics from liver SBRT, MR-guided brachytherapy, to RMP’s multidisciplinary palliative radiation oncology program

MULTIDISCIPLINARY CANCER CONFERENCE (MCC) PARTICIPATION BY PRINCESS MARGRET CANCER CENTRE RADIATION ONCOLOGISTS AT REGIONAL PARTNER SITES (DISEASE SITES WITH RADIATION ONCOLOGY PARTICIPATION IN >75% OF 2017 MCCS)

St. Michael’s Hospital

Breast
Genitourinary
Neurology
Gynaecology
Lymphoma
Gastrointestinal

St. Joseph’s Health Centre

Breast
Genitourinary
Gastrointestinal
Hepato-pancreas biliary (HPB)
Thoracic (lung, esophagus)

MULTIDISCIPLINARY CANCER CONFERENCES

Multidisciplinary Cancer Conferences (MCCs) are scheduled sessions where clinicians discuss patient diagnosis and treatment options. MCCs enable the multidisciplinary treatment team that may include medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, surgeons, pathologists, radiologists and nurses to develop the best individual plan of care. Performance is measured by percent compliance with MCC standards related to frequency, discipline participation, and appropriate roles being in place to support the MCC. We continue to overall be high performers, exceeding CCO targets and provincial averages.

MCC Hospital	Q1 - FY 17/18	Q3 - FY 17/18
Sinai Health System	95%	95%
St. Joseph's Health Centre	82%	53%
St. Michael's Hospital	83%	87%
University Health Network	94%	93%
Women's College Hospital	94%	94%
Overall TRCP South	80%	84%

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE EVENTS (NORTH & SOUTH)

Community of Practice events are one of the foundational elements of the Surgical Oncology Program to support continuous quality improvement. One of the ways we move this agenda forward is through community of practice events. Local champions support the development of these events and target a multidisciplinary group of clinicians. These events are an opportunity to come together and consider and discuss local quality issues, with a goal of improved care and outcomes for patients.

Highlights from the 2017 Bladder, Gynecology and Breast events are outlined below.

BLADDER (March 2017):

- The event was attended by nineteen participants from the Toronto Central (North & South) and Central region with representation from all invited disciplines. Topics included:
- Review of Quality Based Procedure methodology for non-prostate cancer with a focus on quality metrics
- Knowledge translation and sharing of the recently released Bladder Cancer Pathway from CCO

GYNECOLOGY (November 2017):

The event included fifty-two participants from Toronto Central (North & South), Mississauga Halton, Central East, Central West and Central with representation from twelve hospitals in the GTA and all invited disciplines. The target audience was general gynecologists, gynecology oncologists and family physicians. Topics included:

- Suspicious uterine mass: when is it a concern for sarcoma?
- Diagnosis of ovarian cancer: facilitating/optimizing initial management
- Endometrial cancer: what should be done before referral and what happens after?

BREAST (December 2017):

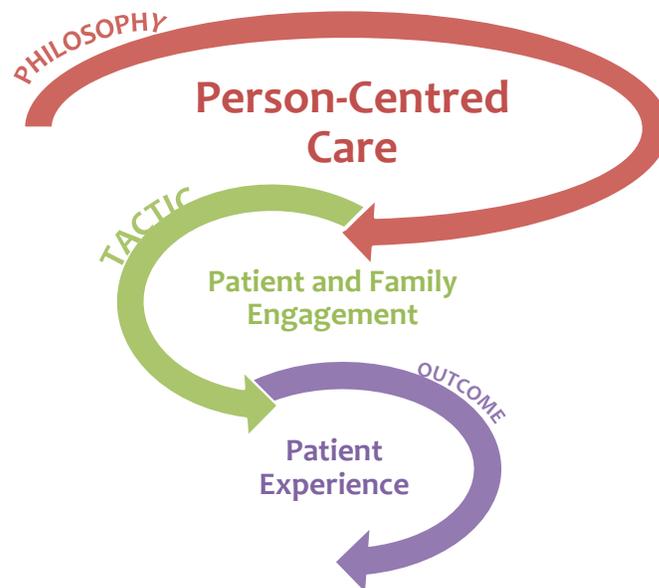
This event focused on breast reconstruction surgery and included twenty four participants from both TCRP North & South. We had representation from all but one hospital in Toronto Central and all invited disciplines. We welcomed Dr. Tulin Cil as the Toronto Central South breast reconstruction general surgery champion who joins Drs. Joan Lipa (breast reconstruction champion), Frances Wright (general surgery champion) and Toni Zhong (breast reconstruction champions). Topics of the event included:

- A focused review and discussion of breast reconstruction guidelines and newer treatments
- Reviewed quality and access metrics for Toronto Central breast reconstruction. Performance was excellent across the LHIN for both access and quality metrics
- The breast reconstruction service planning roundtable revealed opportunities for collaboration, enhanced communication and sources of efficiencies for referrals

PERSON-CENTERED CARE

The Person-Centered Care portfolio encompasses Nursing, Ontario Cancer Symptom Management Collaborative, Patient and Family Engagement and Experience, Patient Education, and Psychosocial Oncology. Expertise is leveraged from all these programs to support and engage patients and healthcare providers in ensuring the delivery of responsive and respectful care that supports values, needs and preferences.

Regionally, we are working together to develop stronger, more cohesive ways to meet our patient needs by ensuring their perspective is included in the design and implementation of programs and care. Highlights from each of the programs are outlined below.



NURSING

The Oncology Nursing Program was developed in 2016 by Cancer Care Ontario to improve the patient experience and outcome of cancer patients by building capacity and improving access to specially trained oncology nurses. Ms. Pamela Savage, the Toronto Central South Regional Nursing Lead is an integral member of the Regional Systemic Therapy Committee where nursing plays an integral role to the quality and safety of care for patients on chemotherapy regimens.

In 2017, key accomplishments included:

- Contributed to the development of Cancer Care Ontario's Position Statements for Nursing Practice in Cancer Care, search *Expert Recommendation Report on Clinical Nurse Specialist and Nurse Practitioner Roles in the Delivery of Adult Cancer Services in Ontario* on the Cancer Care Ontario website to review the statements
- Contributed via survey to the provincial understanding of chemotherapy delivery outside of hospitals. This survey will support provincial planning to enable the safe delivery of parenteral chemotherapy in the home for patients, family and providers
- Contributed to the development of Cancer Care Ontario's Position Statements for Nursing Practice in Cancer Care
- Contributed to the development of Advance Practice Nursing Guidelines lead by the Program in Evidence Based Care program at Cancer Care Ontario, search *Clarifying the roles of clinical nurse specialists and nurse practitioners in the delivery of cancer care in Ontario* on the Cancer Care Ontario website to review the guideline



Ms. Pamela Savage
Nursing Lead



Ms. Upasana Saha
Ontario Cancer Symptom Management
Collaborative Lead

ONTARIO CANCER SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT COLLABORATIVE

Patients and families may experience both physical and emotional symptoms associated with Cancer and its treatment. Symptom screening is completed using the Edmonton Symptom Assessment System (ESAS) and Patient Reported Functional Status (PRFS) at each of the hospitals in the region. Some of these symptoms include pain, fatigue and depression. The Toronto Central Regional Program South has been actively supporting healthcare professionals to better monitor and provide symptom management to patients in all of the partner hospitals. Initiatives are highlighted below:

- There is momentum towards disease specific symptom management surveys to better understand patient needs. Expanded Prostate Cancer Index Composite (EPIC) is a prostate cancer specific survey to measure symptoms in men who are not on chemotherapy. EPIC was launched at PM in 2016 and an evaluation of this tool was completed in 2017. Results from the evaluation showed that patients find the survey easy to complete and a helpful tool to speak with clinicians about their symptoms
- New tablets for the use of symptom screening were added to St. Michael's Hospital, Sinai Health System and Princess Margaret to ensure patients have access to screening before their clinic appointment and improve clinic flow
- At St. Michael's Hospital, quality improvement work was underway to increase completion rates of symptom screening surveys through the development of a Completion Guideline for patients, families, and care providers. Daily assessments and documentation of symptom screening in the electronic patient chart was implemented in October 2017



PATIENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE

Patient and family engagement takes many forms including patients and family members serving as hospital advisors, participating in ongoing committees, focus groups etc. These interactions help us to drive local and system-level quality improvement. The CCO Person Centred Care Guidelines which can be found on the CCO website under Guidelines and Advice have helped focus our efforts on key areas for improvement as identified below:

- A quality improvement plan was implemented to address the results of a retrospective and prospective analysis of 110 neo-adjuvant breast patients who presented at the Emergency Department (ED). The data showed ~50% of ED visits were avoidable. The interventions were aimed at a subset of patients with breast cancer who were on a highly symptomatic chemotherapy regimen. Activities included improving patient education materials, pro-actively calling patients at key time-points in their chemotherapy regimen and improving the consistency of messaging from all clinicians involved in a patient's care
- Cancer Education at Princess Margaret launched a difficult conversations course to support fellows, residents and trainees coming into the cancer program
- Participated in the provincial Thought Leadership group, composed of Patient and Family Advisory Community co-chairs and administrative leaders from across the province aimed to support provincial sharing of quality improvement work and to develop knowledge translation and exchange opportunities



Ms. Martha Wyatt
Person-Centred Care Lead

Patient experience encompasses all the interactions that patients may have with the health care system including clinician and staff interactions, the environment in which they receive care, wait times and their ability to access information. Understanding and measuring patient experience is a key ingredient to move toward patient-centered care. In order to support this work, Cancer Care Ontario has developed and made available to all Regional Cancer Centres a new “real time” patient experience survey, Your Voice Matters. Princess Margaret Cancer Centre implemented this tool in 2017 and we will use this information moving forward to understand gaps in the system and potential areas for improvement.



Ms. Tina Papadakos
Patient Education Lead
(November 2017 to present)

PATIENT EDUCATION

Janet Papadakos stepped down as the TRCP South Lead for Patient Education this year to take on the role of Provincial Head, Patient Education at Cancer Care Ontario. She was a strong advocate and leader, driving the patient education strategy for the past 10 years in our region. Tina Papadakos is her successor. Tina is the Co-Director of the Cancer Self-Management Research Centre and Senior Manager of Educational Design & Knowledge Translation at Princess Margaret. Tina has a Master's degree in Education, is a certified Instructional Designer and eLearning Specialist with 15 years of experience in multi-modal educational programming in healthcare. We welcome her to the role and look forward to her leadership in the program.



Ms. Janet Papadakos
Patient Education Lead
(January to November 2017)

The Patient Education program in 2017 focused on several new initiatives that involved quality improvement, evaluation, and education resource development. Two of these initiatives are highlighted below:

- Education Stations were installed at Princess Margaret to improve access within each clinic to resources on diagnosis, treatment preparation, side effect management, and access to supportive care services within the hospital and community. Evaluation of the project in 2017 found the following:
- A greater number of patients/family information needs are now met in sites that have greater Education Station usage
- 80% of healthcare providers perceived that Education Stations support their patient teaching
- Based on study results, the plan is to build digital Education Stations to help staff order and access materials. A manuscript is in progress to share this approach provincially to support a culture of patient teaching

A Digital Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplant Patient Education Pathway was developed and launched after rigorous user experience testing including members of Cancer Care Ontario's transplant patient and family advisory group. It is currently available to patients and family at Princess Margaret, but is scalable for deployment across the province and collaborations with other cancer centres are welcome. The tool was designed to:

- Improve patient and family informed decision-making and consent
- Decrease decisional regret and distress
- Increase knowledge and self-efficacy needed for self-management

PSYCHOSOCIAL ONCOLOGY (NORTH & SOUTH)

In 2017, the Psychosocial Oncology (PSO) program was focused on the OCP IV strategic objective of Quality of Life and Patient Experience: Expand and integrate access to palliative, psychosocial and rehabilitation services to improve quality of life and patient experience in cancer centres and the community. The goal is to ensure patients have timely access to psychosocial and palliative care as appropriate. Program highlights included:

- Shared information about launch of Resource Hub for PSO guidelines on depression, sexual health and exercise regionally
- Created a directory for health care providers about exercise programs in the Greater Toronto Area for cancer patients
- Re-designed the Psychosocial Oncology page on www.trcp.ca website
- Regional committee continued as a mechanism for disseminating information from Cancer Care Ontario and for identifying other issues
- Quarterly e-Update/resource sharing coordinated by PSO Lead
- Representatives are participating in both a Community of Practice for Dietitians and Community of Practice for Anxiety & Depression
- Held a regional education session: Helping Children and Teens with an Adult Family Member is Diagnosed with Cancer/Receiving Palliative Care
- Input provided on provincial service delivery recommendations



Ms. Susan Blacker
Psychosocial Oncology Lead

TORONTO CENTRAL REGIONAL PSYCHOSOCIAL ONCOLOGY COMMITTEE

St. Michael's Hospital	Ms. Susan Blacker (Chair - January to May 2017) Ms. Jessy Mathai Ms. Joanna Dixon
Princess Margaret/UHN	Ms. Sheila Weinstock Ms. Upasana Saha Ms. Valerie Heller
Women's College Hospital	Ms. Catharine Fox Ms. Aronela Benea
Sinai Health System	Ms. Lisa Wayment Ms. Christina Fabbruzo-Cota Ms. Susan Blacker (Chair - May 2017 to present)
Odette/SHSC	Dr. Karen Fergus Ms. Manisha Gandhi
St. Joseph's Health Centre	Ms. Maria Rugg
Michael Garron Hospital	Ms. Mikki Layton
Regional Aboriginal Patient Navigator	Ms. Joanna Vautour (January to September 2017) Mr. Leonard Benoit (December 2017 to present)



Dr. Bernice Downey
Regional Aboriginal Cancer Lead

INDIGENOUS CANCER PROGRAM (NORTH & SOUTH)

The Indigenous Cancer Program had two roles transition in 2017 - the Aboriginal Patient Navigator and the Program Coordinator. Ms. Joanna Vautour stepped down as our inaugural Aboriginal Patient Navigator after 4 years to take on a provincial role with Cancer Care Ontario's Aboriginal Cancer Control Unit. Joanna was a strong advocate and leader with many accomplishments in the role. We welcomed Mr. Leonard Benoit as the new Aboriginal Patient Navigator in December. He is Qalipu Mi'kmaq from the territory of Newfoundland and Labrador, he is wolf clan and his spirit name is Circling Wolf. Leonard is a licensed Registered Practical Nurse with 17 years of experience in many settings including eight years at North York General Hospital. The second transition was the departure of Ms. Madeleine Stoney, the Regional Aboriginal Program Coordinator to pursue a nursing role. She is followed by Ms. Muriel Lopez who completed her undergraduate degree in Indigenous studies from University of Toronto and has worked at the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres. We look forward to both Muriel and Leonard's collaboration with Bernice Downey, the Regional Aboriginal Cancer Lead (RACL), to advance this program.



Ms. Joanna Vautour
Aboriginal Patient Navigator
(January to August 2017)

The Indigenous Cancer Program continues to support ongoing education to leaders, implementation of new policies to support Indigenous health and build productive relationships. TRCP Indigenous Cancer Program highlights include:

- Participated in hospital based rounds and presentation to educate and raise awareness of Navigator role and FNIM population cancer needs
- Engagement with community partners such as Toronto Public Health and Kensington Hospice on Indigenous knowledge and healing approaches
- Dissemination of Tools for the Journey, Palliative Care Toolkits for FNIM patients and their families to advance culturally relevant palliative care for FNIM patients
- Participated in the UHN Indigenous Council and the RACL served as the Interim Chair. The Indigenous Council contributes to positive and progressive systemic change for Indigenous patients within UHN
- Supported the developed of a smudging policy at University Health Network in collaboration with the working group and participated in Indigenous Council
- Princess Margaret was the first site at University Health Network to launch and support implementation of the Smudging Ceremony Policy and hosted smudging awareness week
- Advocate for the development of healing space at Princess Margaret and Odette Cancer Centre for patients and families
- Increase screening-related capacity among FNIM organization through workshops



Mr. Leonard Benoit
Aboriginal Patient Navigator
(December 2017 to present)



Ms. Madeleine Stoney
Aboriginal Program Coordinator
(January to April 2017)



Ms. Muriel Lopez
Aboriginal Program Coordinator
(July 2017 to present)

TORONTO CENTRAL PALLIATIVE CARE NETWORK (NORTH & SOUTH)

The Toronto Central Palliative Care Network (TCPCN) was created in late 2016 to serve as the regional advisor on high quality palliative care, and be accountable for data and performance measurement, and for driving local quality improvement across all sectors based on best practice.

TCPCN is led through a collaboration between the Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program and the Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network (LHIN). It is a partnership of community stakeholders, health service providers and health system planners in Toronto that are working to strengthen and improve palliative care locally. The TCPCN Secretariat supports and reports into the Ontario Palliative Care Network (OPCN) which is driving the development of a coordinated and standardized approach for delivering hospice palliative care services across the province.

Throughout 2017/18, the TCPCN continued to drive improvements in palliative care at the local level. Highlights of initiatives that have received support from the Network include:

- Launched the Palliative Approach to Care in Long Term Care (PAC-LTC) Initiative - a robust capacity building initiative working with the Toronto Central LHIN's 36 long-term care homes to strengthen and enhance the palliative approach to care offered to residents and their families
- Supported implementation of a range of new and enhanced services that will improve access to care, and strengthen the continuum of services available to those requiring palliative care. These include:
 - New supports for working with the homeless population in Toronto which builds on the specialized palliative care services currently in place and with support from key partners: Inner City Health Associates (PEACH Program), Hospice Toronto, Toronto Central LHIN - Home & Community Team
 - A 4-bed residential hospice for people experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity in the downtown core of Toronto. Operated by Hospice Toronto, in partnership with Inner City Health Associates, and St. Elizabeth
 - A new Indigenous Palliative Care Team that includes a traditional healer and patient coordinator/navigator operated by Anishnawbe Health Toronto
- Collaboratively developed a Regional Model for Palliative Volunteer Training, in partnership with Philip Aziz Centre and Hospice Toronto. This work will build capacity in the system by increasing the number of trained palliative care, non-medical caregivers/volunteers able to support palliative care clients in the LHIN. This Training Hub will enable health service providers across the care continuum access to standardized palliative training for their volunteers and be able to support and retain those volunteers
- Set regional system level performance targets to guide and monitor improvement efforts
- Developed a webpage for providers, patients and families to access information regarding TCPCN, search *Palliative Care Network* in the Toronto Central LHIN website



Ms. Susan Blacker
Toronto Central Palliative Care Network
Non-Physician Co-Lead



Dr. Kirsten Wentlandt
Toronto Central Palliative Care Network
Physician Co-Lead



Ms. Rose Cook
Toronto Central Palliative Care Network
Administrative Lead

REGIONAL PARTNER HOSPITALS & ORGANIZATIONS

PARTNER HOSPITALS



PRINCESS MARGARET CANCER CENTRE

The Princess Margaret Cancer Centre continued to drive progress in clinical care, education and research in 2017. Through an investment from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, we planned and executed a significant expansion of the Blood and Marrow Transplant (BMT) Program to increase our capacity to treat more patients in need of allogenic transplants while continuing to adapt our models of care to enhance safety and reduce wait times. In 2017, the BMT Program- the largest of its kind in Canada- provided care to 457 patients (296 autologous transplants, 161 allogeneic transplants) and the program is projected to grow significantly in the coming years.

With generous support from the Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation, we began construction in Phase 1 of the Space Transformation Project, which includes renovations to our main floor, clinics and staff amenities. This transformation is a key enabler to achieving world-class personalized care, accommodating the evolving needs of our clinical programs and improving the patient experience.

Our clinical trials continue to grow in volume and breadth with 2,010 patients participating in clinical trials, representing 17% of patients treated at Princess Margaret. Examples of contributions to accelerating progress in cancer research include uncovering new evidence in the role of genetic-predispositions in treatment response and personalizing cancer therapy through the use of liquid biopsies.

St. Michael's

Inspired Care.
Inspiring Science.

ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL

In 2017, there was continued improvement in raising awareness of the cancer program and innovation in research at St. Michael's Hospital. Highlights include:

- The Inaugural My Gut Feeling Stomach Cancer Awareness Day was held to bring science, medicine, and patients together
- The 9th annual Breast Care Symposium for primary care focused on Breast Health in Young Women
- Founded by Dr. Christine Brezden-Masley, the COMET Clinical Trials Consortium continues to provide rapid access of oncology clinical trials across Ontario with over 270 members, 31 institutions and 134 Ontario cancer clinical trials
- The Medical Day Care continues to provide timely multidisciplinary care to cancer patients, with dedicated Psycho-Oncology and Palliative Care clinics incorporated within the oncology outpatient clinics
- The St. Michael's oncology website launched in December 2017 to improve access to care and chemotherapy-related symptom management. This work resulted from the Regional Systemic Treatment quality initiative study "Management of chemotherapy-related side effects – do patients know where to get help?"
- The bereavement screening tool involving the identification of medium and high risk care givers, bereavement resource booklet to provide to care givers, condolence cards, and development of a bereavement care pathway was fully integrated on the Palliative Care Unit as part of the "Bereavement Care: A Palliative Care Unit Quality Improvement Initiative"
- The 30th International Course on Therapeutic Endoscopy was held with 300 attendees globally viewing a live endoscopy performed at St. Michael's Hospital by world experts
- St. Michael's Hospital launched a pilot where breast cancer survivors are training medical students to be better equipped to treat future patients, stressing the importance of empathy during treatment



SINAI HEALTH SYSTEM

In 2017, the cancer program at Sinai Health System continued its planning across Mount Sinai Hospital, Bridgepoint Active Healthcare, Circle of Care, and the Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute. The program continues to build on its strong partnership with the TRCP South Regional Cancer Program. Highlights from this past year include:

- Susan Blacker joined the Sinai Health team as Senior Director, Cancer and Palliative Program Planning and Performance
- Lisa Wayment was appointed as Senior Director, Surgical Services
- The program saw an expansion of its psychosocial oncology team and an increase in the number of clinics for palliative care in oncology
- A new website was developed for the Colorectal Diagnostic Assessment Program
- Surgical resources for gynecological oncology were increased to increase capacity and support improving wait times in the Toronto Central Region
- Plans are well underway for the construction of a new, technologically-advanced surgical floor that will span the entire 7th level of Mount Sinai Hospital



ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTH CENTRE

St. Joseph's Health Centre (SJHC) has continued to advance the delivery of excellent patient centred care across the Oncology program in 2017. Renovations have been completed in the Medical Oncology clinic and are underway for the Hematology/Intravenous Clinic to better serve the community through increased capacity and improved therapeutic environments. The SJHC team has also participated in the Breast Centre Patient Exercise Program Grant, facilitating access to an outpatient exercise program designed to improve mobility and outcomes for patients treated for Breast Cancer closer to home. In addition, planning for construction has begun on a state of the art breast centre as part of our Ontario Breast Screening Program. This centre will support the enhanced and streamlined diagnostic processes for our community.

St. Joseph's Health Centre is pleased to support the Partnership Series on Cancer Screening and Treatment for primary care providers developed by the Oncology Physician team. The Hematology Partnership Series has continued through 2017 and has enhanced the collaborative approach to oncology care with our primary care partners.

The Hepatobiliary (HPB) surgical team has been expanded with the addition of Dr. Melanie Tsang. Dr. Tsang's interest in Clinical Trials aligns with the commitment of the SJHC teams to continue to build a robust clinical trials program across the surgical and medical oncology program.



WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL

Women's College Hospital (WCH) continues its focus on four cancer related programs: thyroid surgery, breast surgery, ovarian surgery and colposcopy diagnosis and treatment.

WCH has recently embarked on a partnership with the Canadian Breast Foundation (CBCF) to provide peer support and information. There is a dedicated onsite Support and Information Specialist who helps patients navigate their breast cancer journey. Our specialist is a cancer survivor herself and has received training from WCH and the CBCF. The role helps patients through the following:

- Understand the medical, emotional and practical issues relevant to them
- Cope effectively with the challenges of living with breast cancer or an increased risk for developing breast cancer
- Navigate their breast cancer journey or the options for managing breast cancer risk
- Navigate or find resources and/or services available in the community

On the eve of World Cancer Day in 2017, Women's College Hospital and the Canadian Cancer Society (CCS) confirmed their collaboration in the establishment of The Peter Gilgan Centre for Women's Cancers at WCH. This a new initiative to transform care for women's cancers on a national scale will draw together excellence in research, clinical care, innovation and education and then leveraging that knowledge across the country. This partnership has been made possible through a transformative, collaborative \$12 million donation from noted philanthropist and friend to Women's College Hospital, Peter Gilgan jointly with the Canadian Cancer Society.

This historic moment is a direct result of the world-leading care, research and innovation taking place at Women's College Hospital, which is recognized as a true Canadian leader in health system transformation that changes and saves lives.

PARTNER ORGANIZATION

In 2017, Community Care Access Centres integrated with the Local Health Integration Networks (LHIN) in Ontario to become the Home and Community Care Program within the LHINs. This new structure was driven and aligns to the Patients First Act, developed in response to a need to strengthen planning, health equity and engagement with patients, families and health partners. Home and community care services, support people of all ages that require care at home, school or in their community. We look forward to continued partnership and collaboration with Home and Community Care to drive high-quality, seamless patient care across the continuum. For more information about the new integrated organizational structure, visit the Toronto Central LHIN website and search *patients first*.

AWARDS & NOTABLES

PROVINCIAL CLINICAL LEADERSHIP

TRCP South clinicians have made significant contributions to cancer care through their provincial clinical leadership roles in 2017 at Cancer Care Ontario, see highlights below.

SINAI HEALTH SYSTEM

Dr. Erin Kennedy, Ontario Gastrointestinal Cancers Lead
Dr. Aaron Pollett, Provincial Head, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine

ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL

Dr. Nancy Baxter, Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, Lead
Dr. Derek Muradali, Radiologist-in-Chief, Ontario Breast Screening Program

UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK/PRINCESS MARGARET CANCER CENTRE

Dr. Stephen Breen, Clinical Quality Lead for Medical Physics, for the Radiation Treatment Program
Dr. Gail Darling, Ontario Thoracic Cancers Lead, and Provincial Lead High Risk Lung Cancer Screening
Dr. Sarah Ferguson, Ontario Gynecologic Cancers Lead
Dr. Tony Finelli, Ontario Genitourinary Cancers Lead
Dr. Jonathan Irish, Provincial Head, Surgical Oncology and Models of Care
Dr. John Kim, Ontario Head and Neck Cancers Lead
Dr. Monika Krzyzanowska, Clinical Lead, Quality Care and Access, Systemic Treatment Program
Dr. Vishal Kukreti, Clinical Lead, eTools and Technology
Dr. Ur Metser, Chair of PET Steering Committee
Dr. Pdraig Warde, Provincial Head, Radiation Treatment
Dr. Alice Wei, Lead, Quality & Knowledge Transfer, Surgical Oncology Program
Dr. Janet Papadakis, Provincial Head, Patient Education

WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL

Dr. Heidi Schmidt, Radiology Quality Lead, Lung Cancer Screening for People at High Risk

PROGRAMS IN EVIDENCE BASED CARE CONTRIBUTIONS

Program in Evidence-Based Care within Cancer Care Ontario produces evidence-based guidance documents in partnership with clinical experts in all major cancer disease sites and across all clinical programs and modalities. TRCP South clinicians have made significant contributions to guidelines released in 2017, see highlights below.

Initial Management of Small Cell Lung Cancer (Limited and Extensive Stage) and the Role of Thoracic Radiotherapy and First Line Chemotherapy

- Dr. Gail Darling, Surgical Oncology, University Health Network
- Dr. Alex Sun, Radiation Oncology, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

Treatment of Patients with Stage III (N2 or N3, excluding T4) Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

- Dr. Alex Sun, Radiation Oncology, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre
- Dr. Kazuhiro Yasufuku, Surgical Oncology, University Health Network

Adjuvant Systemic Therapy and Adjuvant Radiation Therapy for Stage I to IIIA Completely Resected Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancers: ASCO/CCO Clinical Practice Guideline Update

Dr. Erin Kennedy, Surgery, Sinai Health System
Dr. Francis Shepherd, Medical Oncology, Princess Margaret Cancer Center

Primary Excision Margins and Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy in Clinically Node-Negative Cutaneous Melanoma of the Trunk or Extremities

- Dr. Alexandra Easson, Surgical Oncology, University Health Network
- Dr. David McCready, Surgical Oncology, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre
- Dr. Christian Murray, Surgery, Women's College Hospital

Cancer Care Ontario Sequence Variants in Hereditary Cancers Guideline: An Endorsement of the 2015 Standards and Guidelines for the Interpretation of Sequence Variants

- Dr. Tracy Stockley, Pathology, University Health Network

Management of Primary Central Nervous System Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma

- Dr. Norm Laperriere, Radiation Oncology, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre
- Dr. Anca Prica, Medical Oncology, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

AWARDS

Dr. Christine Brezden-Masley of St. Michael's Hospital was named the president of the Canadian Cardio-Oncology Network.

Dr. Brian O' Sullivan, of Princess Margaret, received the O. Harold Warwick Prize for outstanding achievements in cancer control research.

Dr. Philippe Bedard, of Princess Margaret, received the William E. Rawls Prize for outstanding contributions that have the potential to lead to, or have already led to important advances in cancer control.

Drs. Mathieu Lupien and Daniel De Carvalho, of Princess Margaret, share the Bernard and Francine Dorval Prize for outstanding contributions to basic biomedical research that have the potential to lead, or have already led to improved understanding of cancer treatments and/or cures.

Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz was presented the Women Who Conquer Cancer Mentorship Award which honors extraordinary female leaders in oncology who have both excelled as mentors and demonstrated outstanding commitment to the professional development of women colleagues as clinicians, educators, and researchers in oncology.

Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz was the 2017 recipient of the "Wendy Lack Women of Action Scientific Award" from the Israel Cancer Research Fund.

Dr. Gary Rodin was awarded the International Psycho-Oncology Society (IPOS) Bernard Fox Award during the 2017 World Congress of Psycho-Oncology.

Dr. Amit Oza was the recipient of the Society of Gynecologic Oncology of Canada (GOC) Presidential Medal.

Drs. Michelle Sholzberg and Lisa Hicks of St. Michael's Hospital, won the Social Innovation Award at Angel's Den for their work on iron deficiency in gastrointestinal (GI) cancer patients, Iron Mom. They will be showcasing their project in the Hong Kong competition.

 Toronto Central South
Regional Cancer Program
in partnership with Cancer Care Ontario

