

New Addition to Geriatric Psychiatry

SGS Presence Helps Attract New Geriatric Psychiatrist

The NSM Specialized Geriatric Services (SGS) program is excited to welcome Dr. Patricia Lepage to the area. Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care, the lead agency on the SGS program, recruited Dr. Lepage as the geriatric psychiatrist for the Horizons inpatient program at the hospital.

Dr. Lepage was previously employed at North Bay Regional Health Centre and began her new position at Waypoint this October.

The new appointment at Waypoint is evidence that the work SGS is doing to develop a program to care for frail seniors is generating momentum and attracting health professionals to the region.



Dr. Patricia Lepage (centre) with Chantelle Sherville, Waypoint's Manager of Medical Affairs, and Dr. Jeff Van Impe, Waypoint's acting Psychiatrist-in-Chief.

Complex Case Resolution Supporting Responsive Behaviours

In September 2016, the Complex Case Resolution (CCR) process was rolled out to NSM providers, and already there is great feedback about the new resource.

The CCR process supports providers who are having trouble developing a discharge plan for complex cases involving older adults with cognitive impairment and responsive behaviours.

Since May, there have been thirteen CCR requests through the NSM SGS program. Ten of the cases were resolved through a Level 1 phone consultation with only three requiring a Level 2 key stakeholder meeting.

SGS believes the reason for the success is due to the interaction between the members of the patient's care team, which happens quickly and in a more efficient and standard way under the new process.

Early interaction with a patient-centered approach is the focus of the CCR process. The patient is being cared for by their entire care team at the same time so everyone is on the same page. So far, despite being in its early stages, the CCR process is showing signs of being successful.



Success in NSM Hospitals

Behaviour Success Agents (BSA) are now up and running in each NSM hospital site! By March 31, 2017, BSAs will support 125 patients through 750 visits across NSM hospitals and will have 1800 education encounters with providers, seniors and caregivers.

To promote best practices across NSM hospitals, the BSAs have developed a list of behaviour definitions. These definitions, part of a standard classification, will help health care providers determine the type of care the patient needs, leading to faster and more accurate diagnoses and care.



The Behaviour Task Force works on the definitions in the new SGS Barrie office

The BSAs will be in place until March 31, 2017. A plan is being developed by each hospital to try to hold the gains made by the BSAs after the project is complete.

Ontario Dementia Strategy

Give Your Input

The Ontario government is inviting you to share your thoughts on how to better support seniors with dementia and their care

partners. The feedback will allow the government to develop a province-wide dementia strategy which will include creating supports, services and coordinated care.

To have your say, visit

www.ontario.ca/dementia or email dementiastrategy@ontario.ca

Anti-Psychotic Use

Education Coming to LTC Prescribers

SGS is working in partnership with the NSM Long-Term Care (LTC) sector to promote the appropriate use of antipsychotics in LTC. A working group has been formed to develop an education plan for interested prescribers (Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Pharmacists). An education needs assessment will be completed in early November with education to roll out between December and March.

Seniors Health Project Team: Key Messages & Successes

- The NSM SGS Program's Clinical Design Report & Recommendations document is complete. Planning is underway to implement the design.
- The Ministry has given NSM new funds to expand the NSM Behaviour Support System (BSS) program. A plan has been developed and is being rolled-out under the leadership of the new Behaviour Service Implementation Steering Committee.

