

News Release

Innovative Cardiac Partnership in the Mississauga Halton LHIN Receives 2018 Minister's Medal Honouring Excellence in Health Quality and Safety

Cardiac surgery patients return home sooner, with 24-hour support, saving the health system \$1.7 million over two years.

Oakville (October 17, 2018) – Putting Patients at the Heart (PPATH) program, a partnership between Trillium Health Partners and SE Health, was honoured today for improving the journey of cardiac surgery patients from hospital to home.



Left to right: Julie Drury, MOHLTC; Dr. Dante Morra, Trillium Health Partners; Kathryn Hayward-Murray, Trillium Health Partners; Helene Lacroix, SE Health; Michael Peters, SE Health; Robin Martin, Parliamentary Assistant to Minister MOHLTC; Dr. Joshua Tepper, Health Quality Ontario

The program was awarded the [2018 Minister's Medal Honouring Excellence in Health Quality and Safety](#) by Robin Martin, Parliamentary Assistant to Christine Elliott, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care at Health Quality Transformation 2018 on October 17, 2018. The Minister's Medal recognizes excellent work done by health care partners across the province and have demonstrated excellence in engaging patients as partners, as well as enhancing value and quality in our health care system.

The collaborative PPATH program enables cardiac surgery patients to return home on average, one day sooner and with 24-hour support. Emergency department visits and hospital readmissions were also reduced, leading to a health system savings of \$1.7 million over two years. First launched in 2015, PPATH is now the standard of care at Trillium Health Partners regional cardiac surgery centre which has the second highest rate of cardiac volumes in Ontario.

A key priority of the Mississauga Halton LHIN is to work together to lead an innovative person-centred health system. Mary Davies, Acting Board Chair, of the Mississauga Halton LHIN says, "Putting Patients at the Heart is a great example of new partnerships working collaboratively to improve the patient experience and health outcome."

QUICK FACTS:

- In 2015, Trillium Health Partners and SE Health collaborated with patients and families to redesign the journey for cardiac surgery patients from hospital to home. PPATH is the result of these partnerships.
- This is the third Mississauga Halton LHIN program that has won the Minister's Medal. The [Supports for Daily Living Program](#) won the inaugural Minister's Medal in 2013 and the [Caregiver Respite Program](#) was honoured in 2016.
- The Minister's Medal is a competitive, annual award program that recognizes excellent work done by health care partners across the province
- This year marked the sixth year of the Minister's Medal program.
- Medal winners for each medal category were selected through reviews by the Local Health Integrated Networks and an external advisory committee.
- A record 116 applications were submitted for this year's awards.
- Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care: 2018 Minister's Medal Winners [\[link\]](#)

KEY INNOVATIONS OF PPATH INCLUDE:

- 24-hour telephone support for patients and families, offering a simplified way to access a care provider and to ask questions following discharge from the hospital.
- Access to an integrated care coordinator, who actively supports patient's transition from hospital to home.
- Access to community care.
- A single electronic health record, accessible by all team members.
- PPATH provided 3.5 times more patients with home care while still saving \$1.7 million to the health care system over two years.
- PPATH resulted in 25 per cent fewer post-surgery readmission rates and 33 per cent fewer emergency department visits.

QUOTES:

“We are so pleased that Putting Patients at the Heart has been honoured with the Minister’s Medal. This prestigious award recognizes the partnership between Trillium Health Partners and SE Health that allows cardiac patients to return home sooner and with 24-hour support. Congratulations to the entire team who has made this innovative, integrated program a reality. It is a great example of connected care that is putting the patients and people of the Mississauga Halton LHIN at the forefront.”

– Mary Davies, Acting Board Chair, Mississauga Halton LHIN

“Trillium Health Partners is honoured to be awarded the 2018 Minister’s Medal with our partner SE Health. We believe in the power of teamwork and that partnerships create better health outcomes and experiences by bridging gaps inside and outside of the hospital, while increasing capacity to meet the growing demands of our community.”

– Michelle DiEmanuele, President and CEO, Trillium Health Partners

“We often talk about how hard it is to change the health care system, yet the collaborative, agile approach behind this bundled care program provides us with a roadmap for success. By engaging patients and caregivers and leveraging the core expertise of both community and hospital nurses, physicians, health leaders and professionals, we have achieved meaningful change in a simple, efficient and scalable way. The results of PPATH speak for themselves. A big shout-out to the bright minds at Trillium Health Partners and SE Health for showing us the way.”

– Shirlee Sharkey, President and CEO, SE Health

MISSISSAUGA HALTON LHIN

The Mississauga Halton LHIN plans, funds and integrates the local health system bringing together health care partners from a number of sectors including hospitals, community care and support services, mental health and addictions, community health centres, long-term care and primary care to develop innovative, collaborative solutions to improve access to health care and enhance the experience of patients and clients. As of May 31, 2017, we also deliver and coordinate home and community care.

The Mississauga Halton LHIN has a clear, achievable regional plan to improve the local health system that reflects the needs of the community and the realities of the local service environment. In 2017-2018, Mississauga Halton LHIN’s budget of \$1.6 billion was allocated to the delivery and coordination of home and community care services by the LHIN and to programs and services delivered by our health service providers through 70 service accountability agreements. The Mississauga Halton LHIN is home to over 1.2 million people living in the communities of Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, Mississauga and South Etobicoke.

MEDIA CONTACTS

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