



Rapport

RGAP · PRÉG

BULLETIN ÉLECTRONIQUE DU PROGRAMME RÉGIONAL D'ÉVALUATION GÉRIATRIQUE D'OTTAWA

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FULL SPEED AHEAD

The Regional Geriatric Assessment Program (RGAP) of Ottawa is pleased to circulate electronic newsletters to our partners, clients, and families in our quest to promote seniors' health.

The RGAP will distribute the electronic newsletter on a monthly basis. It will highlight specialized geriatric services within the Champlain region and report on program updates and developments, partnerships, clinical service activities, and education and research initiatives.

REGIONAL GERIATRIC ASSESSMENT PROGRAM: EXPANSION THROUGH PARTNERSHIP

The RGAP is a coordinated network within the Champlain region that includes a broad range of specialized geriatric services, from hospital to home.

The clinical services, teaching, and research are wholly committed to the health and independence of seniors who have complex health problems.

RESOURCE INTEGRATION FOR SENIORS IN THE COMMUNITY (RISC)

The RISC Program was trialed at the Civic Family Medicine Center in 2004 to respond to the needs of seniors at risk of hospitalization and placement. RISC combines intensive case management, and coordinated primary care with rapid access to specialized geriatric and community services. A recent evaluation of the first 18 months of operation confirmed that seniors at high risk of hospitalization and/or placement had reduced use of hospital ER and inpatient services and Long-Term Care Homes. Goals of the clients and the program to better control their chronic conditions were achieved. Program clients reported "I have more independence and I feel better. It makes me want to be as well as I can be."

This new made in Ontario model of integrated service delivery is another example of RGAP partners. Active support from the Regional Office of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, the leadership and collaboration of the Community Care Access centers in Ottawa and the Five Eastern Counties, participating physicians in Ottawa, Morrisburg and Hawkesbury and increased involvement from community support agencies have been key ingredients in the success of this program.

NEW DIRECTIONS FOR PROVIDING GERIATRIC EDUCATION

Through Care Connect (the tele-health network connecting close to 50 sites in Eastern Ontario), we have been able to increase our participation level by accommodating health care professional's busy schedules by minimizing travel times to teaching sessions. (www.careconnect.org)

EXTERNAL GERIATRIC ASSESSOR TRAINING AND EDUCATION:

Over the past year technology has expanded our horizons in delivering specialized geriatric education across the Champlain District. Care Connect has provided us the opportunity to bridge the continuity of teaching and learning to community geriatric assessors. We were pleased to provide 3 teaching sessions during the months of April to June 2005. 25 to 30 participants from across the Champlain District attended each session either at the host site or by videoconferencing. The sessions will continue in the Fall of 2005.

EDUCATION SERIES FOR FAMILY PHYSICIANS WORKING IN LONG TERM CARE:

In response to a learning needs survey, the RGAC Teaching and Learning working group completed a pilot education series to family physicians working in Long Term Care. Over 42 family physicians participated in 6 clinical education sessions pertinent to optimizing the care delivered to patients in LTC homes. Based on positive feedback, the sessions will resume in the Fall of 2005. We hope to optimize family physician ability to participate by using Care Connect.

WHAT'S NEW

Multidisciplinary City Wide Rounds:

Disclosure of Dementia

Dr. Anna Byszewski

25 November 2005 8:00 – 9:00 am

"Amphitheatre" The Ottawa Hospital Civic Campus

We will be seeking input and contributions from all of our partners. Please forward submissions for comment to Kelly Milne at kmilne@ottawahospital.on.ca or call (613) 798-5555 extension 13930.

