

Questions from the Halton Open Physician Meeting
August 20th, 2020, 12:30 -1:00pm

1. Will work on the Connected Care Halton OHT Yr.1 priority work streams (eg: Palliative Care, Mental Health and Addictions) be restarting and will there be compensation for the physicians doing this work?

- Currently, these streams are on pause and all OHTs are encouraged to pivot and look at fall planning (2nd COVID wave, ARI/ILI clinics); there is no specific mention of funding for physicians that have participated in this work.

2. Some OHTs have been funding their physician leads with 15 hrs/wk of “protected time”, not the case for Connected Care Halton ; likely need ~ 5 individuals to do the ongoing work (on many levels) that only one physician has been doing to date. Names of interested parties can come forward to Kris or Michelle, there will be regular meetings going forward for this “working” group.

3. The Ottawa-Carleton ILI (influenza-like illness) clinic that has been up and running during the pandemic, would this be a model for Halton? Do these clinics have to be associated with a hospital?

- Emphasis should be on getting these sites up and running and not who is housing them. Staffing is always an issue; the assessment work in ILI/ARI clinics lines up well with community primary care or emerg physician work; funding still being ironed out, with sessional funding preferred over FFS (FFS is an issue for capitated models).

4. The concern about flu vaccine availability is ongoing, especially after many offices were struggling to get their hands on enough last season. The word is 30% more vaccine will be made available this season, not clear if this is across the board provincially or specific to certain areas; also not clear if this applies to both the standard and high dose serums, will need the public health unit to confirm. Capacity issues for flu vaccinations are what is driving the momentum behind community-based clinics, though those offices that feel they can run their own with all the appropriate IPAC measures in place should be encouraged to do so.

Please direct inquiries about the Connected Care Halton OHT or local fall planning (including flu vaccine clinics and COVID/ILI assessment centres) to Kris or Michelle:

Kris Martiniuk: klcmartiniuk@gmail.com

Michelle Gregory-Brooks: michelle.gregory-brooks@lhins.on.ca