



In 2011, the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) requested Critical Care Services Ontario (CCSO) to lead a planning process to develop a comprehensive neurosurgical system to meet the needs of adult and paediatric patients across Ontario. As a part of this program, the MOHLTC also committed new nursing positions, including clinical Neurosurgical Outreach Nurse and Neurosurgical Nurse Educator positions, to support the management of specialized

paediatric and adult neurosurgical patients.

The Neurosurgery Education and Outreach Network (NEON) was established in May 2013 to work in collaboration with the Provincial Neurosurgery Advisory Committee to support the educational component of recommendations to better integrate access to neurosurgical services in the province. Originally comprised of Nurse Educators and Program Directors from each of the province's adult neurosurgical centres, their work formed the foundation for an educational outreach program designed to provide a wide breadth of education to non-neurosurgical centres on neurosurgical patient's care across the continuum. The

expanded network has grown to include Clinical Nurse Specialists, Advanced Practice Nurses and Nurse Practitioners working in both adult and paediatric neurosurgery.

The OUTREACHER Newsletter will be published two to three times per year to provide regional hospitals with Neurosurgery updates and education.

NEON:
**Working towards
Provincial
improvements in
neurosurgical
service delivery**

- IMPROVING ACCESS
- IMPROVING QUALITY AND RESPONSIVENESS
- IMPROVING NEUROSURGICAL NURSING CARE ACROSS ONTARIO

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Revised Neurosurgery Consultation Referral guidelines

- Isolated Head Trauma
- Brain Tumours
- Intracerebral Hemorrhage
- Spine

Knowledge Translation and Exchange Strategy –

Revised Neurosurgery Consultation Referral Guidelines

This past winter, Critical Care Services Ontario (CCSO) continued to collaborate with NEON members to implement the knowledge translation and exchange (KTE) strategy to support the uptake of the revised *Neurosurgery Consultation Referral Guidelines*, released in March 2018.

During the annual NEON in-person meeting on January 30, 2019, NEON members had the opportunity to share their experiences while leading the formal and informal education and outreach efforts in support of the revised guidelines. Throughout the meeting, NEON members shared lessons they had learned, challenges they had faced, success stories, and case scenarios they had experienced during the knowledge exchange process. CCSO is currently in the process of completing an initial evaluation of the revised *Neurosurgery Consultation Referral Guidelines*. Through in-depth interviews, the evaluation will help CCSO to better understand if the revised guidelines clarified the criteria for requesting an urgent neurosurgery consultation or referral via CritiCall Ontario and highlight the perceived barriers to the utilization of the revised guidelines.

As we approach the end of the 2018/2019 fiscal year, CCSO would like to recognize and thank NEON members for their contributions and efforts in the implementation of the KTE strategy. Collaboration between CCSO and NEON will continue into the 2019/2020 fiscal year.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN YOUR LHIN!

LHIN 1

April 16: Spine Workshop at Chatham Kent Health Alliance - Interactive education focusing on Spinal Cord Precautions, Spinal Cord Testing and the Miami J Advanced Collar

May 29: CKHA Hospital Wide Orientation. Focusing on Neuro Assessments, Spinal Cord Testing and Miami J Advanced Collar Care

LHIN 2

April 4 & 8: Victoria Hospital – Spine Refresher

April 16: Spine Workshop at Chatham Kent Health Alliance – Interactive education focusing on Spinal Cord Precautions, Spinal Cord Testing and the Miami J Advance Collar

May 27 & 31: Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital – Skills Fair

LHIN 5&6

January 17, 21, 28, 29, February 4 & 5: Credit Valley Hospital - ICU Skills Day & CCSO Neuro Assessment Guidelines (Updates)

January 23 & March 25: William Osler ED New Hire Orientation Day – Neuro Review (Neuro Assessment, CCSO Neuro Consultation Referral Guidelines, Collar Care and Cauda Equina Syndrome)

February 22, March 4, 12, 13, & 15 – Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital -Collar Care and Management

March 25 & April 3: Oakville – Trafalgar Memorial Hospital-Neuro Review (Neuro Assessment, Collar Care and Management, etc)

LHIN 9E/10

April 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 15 & 16 Quinte Health Care Belleville General - Neurological Assessment, BIS, TOF

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN YOUR LHIN!

LHIN 11

January 2019

Arnprior Hospital – Collar Care and ED Guidelines

February 2019

Renfrew Hospital – Collar Care and Neuro Assessment

Almonte Hospital – All day Nursing Skills Fair – Collar Care, Neuro Assessment and ED Consultation Guidelines

LHIN 14

NEON/RCCR - Neuro/Critical Care Education Day

May 22 Nipigon District Memorial Hospital

May 23 Geraldton District Hospital

June 4 Manitowadge General Hospital

June 5 Marathon – North of Superior Health Care Group

June 6 Terrace Bay – North of Superior Health Care Group

September 18 Kenora – Lake of the Woods District Hospital

September 19 Fort Frances – LaVerendrye Hospital

September 20 Atikokan General Hospital

October 9 Red Lake Margaret Cochenour Memorial Hospital

October 10 Dryden Regional Health Centre

October 11 Sioux Lookout – Meno Ya Win Health Centre

Nursing Care and Management of a Patient with a Halo Device



Picture retrieved online from: <http://178.128.108.15/halo-orthosis-immobilization-spine-orthobullets.html>

Do's and Don'ts

Do's	Don'ts
Halo wrench or Allen key must be affixed to the front of the vest at all times in the event that CPR must be performed.	Do not tighten the pins if loose; only the surgeon or a trained delegate can do so. If loose, contact the physician immediately.
Log roll the patient when in bed until spine stability has been confirmed by the surgeon.	Do not remove the Halo vest or crown. Only trained staff or the surgeon can do so or if needed for CPR
Keep the sheepskin dry.	Do not get the sheepskin wet.
	Do not grab the bars when turning or moving the patient.
May use soap to wash the skin, but rinse and dry well.	Do not use lotions or powders under the vest.

Halo Device

- Used to immobilize the cervical spine in the treatment of traumatic injuries to the cervical spine or for post-operative support
- Reduces the risk of damage to the patient's spinal column when the vertebrae are unstable due to either a dislocation or fracture of the bones
- Also referred to as a "halo vest" or "halo"

Nursing Care and Management of a Patient with a Halo Device is available at

https://www.criticalcareontario.ca/EN/AboutUs/StrategicDirection/OntarioCriticalCarePlan%282015-2018%29/Documents/NEON_Halo_Device_Booklet_Dec.28_2018_FINAL.pdf

Outreach in Action- LHIN 14

In 2017 NEON representatives for LHIN 14, Kim Belluz and Chad Johnson partnered with the Regional Critical Care Response Team (RCCR) at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre to provide education to the region. Working together on regional education has enabled NEON and RCCR to provide a full day of Critical Care and Neurosurgery education at each of the 11 regional hospitals across Northwestern Ontario. With the considerable geographical size of LHIN 14, we cover almost 4000 kilometres round trip! In 2018 we are able to reach 120 nurses, physicians and health care professionals at our education sessions. The topics included NEON Updates, RSI, Emergency Medications, Increased Intracranial Pressure Management, Thoracic Injuries and Interactive Trauma/Neuro SIM Scenarios. This year we have new presentations, interactive learning and SIM scenarios planned. The 2019 dates are listed under the LHIN Education section in this newsletter.



Upcoming events



What's New!

1. Neurosurgery

Consultation Referral Guidelines Version 2.0

- Isolated Head Trauma
- Brain Tumour
- Intracerebral Hemorrhage
- Spine

Version 2.0 includes a QR Code that users can scan with their mobile device to access the Guidelines

2. Halo Care

https://www.criticalcareontario.ca/EN/AboutUs/StrategicDirection/OntarioCriticalCarePlan%202015-2018%29/Documents/NEON_Halo_Device_Booklet_Dec.28.2018_FINAL.pdf

Coming Soon!

- Revised Basic Neurological Observation Guidelines
- Seizure Management
- Spinal Cord Assessment video
- Cauda Equina



Nursing Care and Management of a Patient with a Halo Device

Neurosurgery Education
and Outreach Network **NEON**

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Please visit:
www.criticalcareontario.ca

For the latest neurosurgical
guidelines and educational
webinars

CCSO Critical Care Services Ontario

LHIN	Organization	Neuro-Nurse Educator	Clinical Outreach Specialist
LHIN 1	Windsor Regional Hospital	Jessie McKenzie	Jessie McKenzie
LHIN 2	London Health Sciences Centre	Sheila Hunt	Kimberly Salway
LHIN 3/4	Hamilton Health Sciences	Brenda Bousfield	Susan Di Sabatino Sera Nicosia
LHIN 5/6	Trillium Health Partners	Beverly Espedido	Caroline Booth
LHIN 7/8/9W/12	University Health Network	Charmaine Arulvarathan	vacant
LHIN 7/8/9W/12	St. Michael's Hospital	Lory Lee	Denise Ouellette
LHIN 7/8/9W/12	Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre	Lars Kure	Catherine Morash
LHIN 7	The Hospital for Sick Children	Elisabeth White	Elisabeth White
LHIN 9E/10	Kingston General Hospital	Marnie Cranston	Nicole Chenier-Hogan
LHIN 11	The Ottawa Hospital	Raizha Gramcko	Dianna Hughes
LHIN 13	Health Sciences North Sudbury	Lisa Weiler	Lindsay Roach
LHIN 14	Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre	Kevin Halabecki	Kim Belluz

