

A message from Dr. Rene Shumak....



Dr. Rene Shumak,
Breast Imaging Lead—
Integrated Cancer Screening
Program, Central LHIN

As the Regional Breast Imaging Lead for the Central LHIN I am delighted to provide an introductory message for the third Integrated Cancer Screening (ICS) program newsletter.

This past year has been quite exciting for the OBSP (the breast screening component of Integrated Cancer Screening) with the inclusion of annual mammography and MRI screening of women at high risk for breast cancer.

As the Breast Imaging Lead I am available for the OBSP reading radiologists in this region. I hope to be instrumental in improving the quality, safety and accessibility of breast screening.

My role involves monitoring and advising on the system performance and improving the quality of breast cancer screening within the Central LHIN. We will accomplish this by monitoring the outcomes of the affiliates including radiologists and technologists (MRT's) and finding ways for improvement.

At the present time within the Central LHIN there are 19 screening affiliates, 5 assessment centres and 2 high-risk screening sites. We are presently planning to add more breast screening and assessment sites.

I would like to implore the primary care physicians in the Central LHIN to encourage your eligible patients to participate in breast screening. The OBSP program has been in existence for over 20 years and has clearly demonstrated that screening saves lives. The key aim is reduction of mortality from breast cancer through delivery of a high quality screening program.

Sincerely,

Rene Shumak, MD, RCPSC
Central LHIN Breast Imaging Lead
Regional Integrated Cancer Screening Program, SRCC
ICSRegional@southlakeregional.org

Colorectal Cancer Screening Recall Project

Feature Article....

The North York Family Health Team (NYFHT) is the GTA's largest Family Health Team, comprised of 67 family physicians in five FHOs, 35 Allied Health Providers, and administrative/support staff. We use two EMR systems, Nightingale-on-Demand and Practice Solutions. The NYFHT had implemented a pilot EMR-based reminder and alert system for preventive services for a group of twelve physicians in one FHO (12,000 rostered patients), using the Nightingale-on-Demand EMR.

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Staff Cancer Screening Programs

Staff Breast Screening Program

“I appreciate the opportunity for self-directed management and education”.

- Staff participant

Work place wellness is important to foster, particularly in health care settings where healthy lifestyle behaviours are often encouraged. This is why the Occupational Health and Safety and Diagnostic Imaging Departments at Southlake Regional Health Centre collaborated with their **Ontario Breast Screening Program** (OBSP) to start a **Staff Breast Screening Program** in 2009.

At the start of the program, all eligible female staff, physicians, and volunteers were sent a letter inviting them to get a mammogram. Subsequent strategies for program maintenance involve mail outs to staff who have recently turned 50 years of age and recall letters for overdue screens.

Progress to date:

To date 308 women have been screened. The program has received an overwhelmingly positive response from Southlake staff on a number of items including:

- Booking and wait times
- Sufficient information provided prior to their mammogram
- Overall satisfaction and future participation

“Amazing experience with the team, great place to work”.

- Staff participant

Sample of Results from Staff Satisfaction Survey

Did the SRHC staff program help educate you on the importance of breast screening?	82% said yes
Based on your experience today, would you recommend the OBSP to your family and friends?	98% said yes
Based on your experience today, are you likely to return for regular breast screening?	97% said yes
Overall, I am satisfied with my visit	99% agreed or strongly agreed

Staff Colon Screening Program

Over the last year, Cancer Care Ontario reported that **ColonCancerCheck** (CCC) screening targets were lower than expected. The priority to increase awareness and screening is what led the Integrated Cancer Screening program to develop a pilot **Staff Colon Screening Initiative**.

Goal:

By following the overall parameters of the Staff Breast Screening Program, increasing awareness and reducing barriers to FOBT kits were addressed in a partnership with the Southlake Family Health Team.

“It was something I knew was needed but I was hesitant. The letter was a good reminder and it wasn't too bad”.

- Staff participant

In September 2012, letters went out to all staff, volunteers, and physicians over the age of 50 to inform them about the program, and a kickoff event was held at the Stronach Regional Cancer Centre. Of those who attended within the target age (50-74), 15% were not aware of the colon screening guidelines prior to the event, and 27% had not participated in colon cancer screening. These gaps indicated that colon screening promotion is needed at Southlake.

Progress to date:

Nine staff members opted to participate in the pilot program, and obtaining their feedback is underway. The feasibility of maintaining an ongoing Staff Colon Screening Program at Southlake is also being explored, with the intention of implementing this program regionally at other sites in the Central LHIN.

**Are you a health care site interested in learning more about staff screening programs?
Contact ICSRegional@southlakeregional.org.**

Written by: Joy Elkayam, MSc, Coordination Advisor, Regional ICS Program



North York
Family Health Team

Implementing an Integrated FOBT reminder and alert program in two EMR systems
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The system included:

- An administrator to oversee the program
- Data clerks to audit and update the data so that the information is accurate
- Regular communication with providers and their staff about the program
- Reminder mailings to overdue patients
- Consistent EMR-based alerts at every encounter

In partnership with the ICS program, we evaluated the potential to spread to a larger group and to an additional EMR (Practice Solutions). Participation in the program was high. Automated alerts and reminder letters have been implemented in both EMRs.

Table 1: Screening compliance for Colorectal cancer (either FOBT 2 yrs or colonoscopy 10 years) at baseline

FHO	EMR	Letters	Eligible	Screened	Number of MDs	% MDs participating
1	NG	563	3351	83%	16	64%
2	NG	1184	4347	73%	10	100%
3	PSS	173	1137	85%	5	100%
4	PSS	485	1710	72%	4	57%
Total		2405	10545	77%	35	74%

We found differences between FHOs, but there does not appear to be a difference between the two EMR systems used. In other words, how the EMR is used within a group appears to have more influence than which EMR is used.

We surveyed physicians at the end of the program they felt the process was:

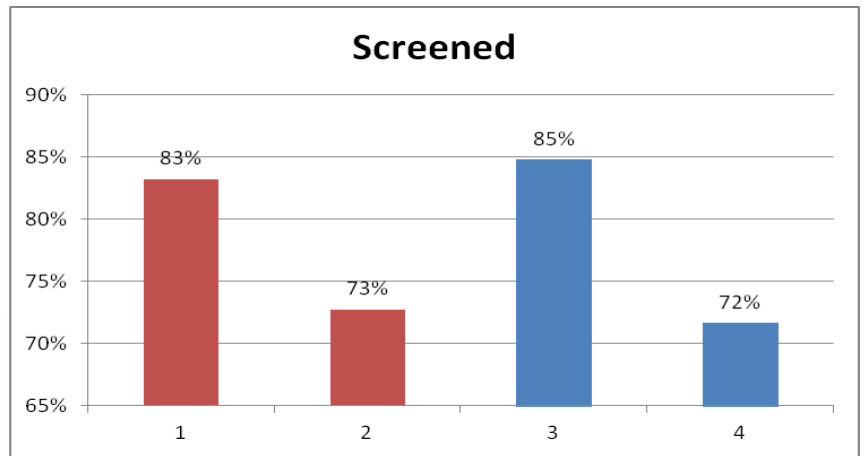
- 1) **usable** (reasonable amount of work to check patient lists reasonable accuracy).
- 2) **sustainable** (agreed with continuing the process without ongoing physician checking of lists; agreed with continuing consistent data entry).

Physicians have agreed to ongoing reminder letters to patients that are overdue, to be done every three months, to a maximum of two reminder letters. Data collection for screening compliance will be undertaken by our FHT Data Manager on a yearly basis, after the March 31st year end. We have provided manuals detailing the preventive service management processes for Practice Solutions and Nightingale to CCO.

We are grateful for the ICS program’s support of this initiative, and are pleased to share findings and processes with our LHIN colleagues. Please contact info@nyfht.com or ICSRegional@southlakeregional.org for more information.

Michelle Greiver MD, MSc, CCFP, FCFP
North York Family Health Team
240 Duncan Mill Road, Suite 705
Toronto, Ontario M3B 3S6
Phone: 416-222-3011

Figure 1: Percentage Screened by FHO



*Red = physician using the Nightingale EMR; Blue = physician using the Practice Solutions EMR

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

For more information on
ColonCancerCheck
www.ontario.ca/ColonCancerCheck

Screen for Life

Cancer screening sees what you can't

- Breast
- Cervical
- Colorectal

Physicians Corner

Participation in upcoming Stakeholder Consultations for Cancer Care Ontario

In an effort to improve cancer screening rates in the Central LHIN, the Integrated Cancer Screening Program is undertaking a series of stakeholder consultations to help understand current screening practices across our LHIN and how we can better support primary care providers in improving cancer screening rates. Focus groups will be held early in the New Year. Breakfast and an honorarium will be provided. If interested, please contact ICSRegional@southlakeregional.org.

Shuttle Bus Update

The Stronach Regional Cancer Centre's Shuttle Bus service is available for your patients! The service runs two times a day with stops at Vaughan Mills and Hillcrest. For more information contact Jennifer Walker, at j2walker@southlakeregional.org or 905 895 4521 ext. 6536.

Twitter

The ICS Program is embracing social media in an effort to increase cancer screening awareness in the region. Follow us on Twitter [@Screen4Cancer](https://twitter.com/Screen4Cancer).

Oncology Day Update: 1st Annual Central LHIN Oncology Day:

Supporting the Primary Care Provider in the Cancer Journey was held November 9th, 2012 at the Southlake Regional Cancer Centre.

Highlights

147 primary care practitioners attended

Overall feedback from the participants was extremely positive with such comments as;

“Excellent Day”, “Great diversity of speakers”, and “Very informative!”

What's next? Planning has commenced for the 2nd Annual Central LHIN Oncology Day for the fall of 2013!

If you are interested in participating on the planning committee for next year's Central LHIN Oncology Day, please contact: Danielle De Castro at ddecastro@southlakeregional.org or 905-895-4521 ext. 6366.

Stay tuned...

The April issue will feature:

- 1) Diagnostic Assessment Units - How they can help you and your patients!
- 2) Promoting Palliative Care to Primary Care
- 3) An Overview of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Upcoming Events

February - Physician Consultations

**Please contact the Regional ICS Program for more information.*

March - Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Newsletter Submissions

The Quarterly newsletter is published by the Regional Integrated Cancer Screening Program for primary care providers within the Central LHIN. Story ideas and feedback are welcome!

Please forward your submissions to ICSRegional@southlakeregional.org or by calling 905 895 4521 ext. 6565.

E-mail list

If you would like to be added to the ICS e-mail list for future issues of The Quarterly as well as ICS updates please e-mail ICSRegional@southlakeregional.org

Regional Integrated Cancer Screening Program

Stronach Regional Cancer Centre, Central LHIN
Southlake Regional Health Centre
596 Davis Drive, Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 2P9

Phone: 905 895 4521 ext. 6065

Fax: 905 952 2461

E-mail: ICSRegional@southlakeregional.org