



## Terms of Reference: Rehabilitative Care Alliance System Evaluation Advisory Group

### Background

The Rehabilitative Care Alliance (RCA) was created by Ontario's Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) in 2013 to bring about the system transformation that no single LHIN could achieve on its own. Through significant engagement of provincial stakeholders including health service providers, subject matter experts, patient and family representatives and others, the RCA has set in motion significant change across the province.

By standardizing many aspects of planning, evaluation and clinical care across the province, the RCA and its partners are ensuring that health care resources are used more effectively and that Ontarians receive high quality rehabilitative care no matter where they live.

The RCA's next work plan from 2019 – 2022 will allow the RCA to continue its successful efforts to strengthen and standardize rehabilitative care across the province. The benefits of rehabilitative care — better health outcomes, shortened hospital stays and reduced hospitalizations among older adults — are particularly relevant today, as stakeholders seek to improve flow, divert patients from emergency departments, maintain and enhance function in the community, and reduce hallway medicine.

Over the next three years, the RCA will build on the impact of its current work with a focus on the following:

- **Frail Seniors:** Continue to support efforts to reduce preventable emergency department visits and maintain and improve the functional status of community-based frail seniors who fall.
- **Capacity Planning:** Support regions in applying a standardized, needs-based approach to capacity planning for rehabilitative care so that resources are optimally allocated to address patient needs.
- **Bundled Funding:** Continue to work with the MOHLTC and rehabilitative care providers to support expansion of bundled funding projects.
- **Hip Fracture/Total Joint Replacement (TJR) QBP Best Practices:** Increase alignment across province with TJR rehabilitative care best practices to support implementation and spread of the MOHLTC hip & knee bundled care initiative.
- **Community-Based Rehab Initiative:** Improve understanding of how community-based rehabilitative care models could be used to support enhanced patient outcomes, better flow and improved patient transitions.
- **System Evaluation:** Continue to standardize evaluation of rehabilitative care services at the regional and provincial level to support evidence-based practice and system-wide improvement.
- **Definitions:** Continue to guide and support the spread and integration of the definitions frameworks to drive standardization across the province.
- **Assess & Restore:** Analyze provincial outcomes of Assess & Restore funding to illustrate impact on clinical outcomes and system efficiencies.



From the beginning, the RCA's strength has been the tremendous engagement and support of stakeholders from across the province.

## **Objectives Work Plan 2019-2022 (April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2022)**

Building on the previous work of the RCA's System Evaluation initiative, the current work plan will continue to support reporting on Rehabilitative Care System Performance and support regional planners in their quality improvement toward meeting RCA published benchmarks. The objectives of the System Evaluation initiative will be to enhance the provincial system evaluation report to include performance at the organization level, develop a unifying approach to quality improvement for the 3 priority indicators and integrate the reporting of outpatient rehab data within the RCA System Evaluation performance report.

## **Deliverables**

*The following are anticipated deliverables for this initiative. These may be subject to change depending on the discussions of the advisory group and the potential influence of other provincial initiatives. Any significant change in deliverables will be discussed with the advisory group and Steering Committee.*

- Produce a detailed report of the findings from the Phase II CRA Pilot of patient outcomes in outpatient rehab
- Continued annual reporting via performance report focused on rehabilitative care with enhancements including performance at the organizational level.
  - Release the 18/19 RCA System Evaluation Performance Report with organization level data
  - Release the 19/20 RCA System Evaluation Performance Report with inclusion of outpatient/ambulatory metrics
  - Release the 20/21 RCA System Evaluation Performance Report
- Indicator Review and Refresh
- Incorporate outpatient indicators on wait time and utilization into the system evaluation report card
  - Identify 2-3 indicators from the outpatient data to include in the report, develop technical specifications and undertake data quality review
- In collaboration with regional and provincial partners, in alignment with health system directions and in support of OHTs, undertake provincial quality improvement for rehabilitative care
  - Identify 2-3 provincial level quality improvement initiatives and undertake the work in collaboration with noted partners to implement the identified provincial level initiatives
- Work with interested OHTs or regional partners to facilitate and undertake a root cause analysis exercise and develop a plan for rehabilitative care quality improvement for their geographically defined population, based on performance data

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

- The advisory group will be supported by the Rehabilitative Care Alliance Secretariat.
- The Rehabilitative Care Alliance Steering Committee will act to support the System Evaluation Advisory Group and remove/eliminate barriers, as able, to facilitate the work of the group.



- If Advisory Group members share documents pertaining to the work of the group with stakeholders outside of the committee, members will provide contextual information to the recipient to explain the purpose of the work as well as any other information that is required to provide clarity around the work and the information contained within the document(s).
- Members are expected to review distributed materials in advance of the meeting.
- If members are unable to attend a meeting, members may identify an alternate representative who will attend meetings on their behalf and provide the alternate attendee with information required to support their participation. The alternate will communicate the proceedings, decisions and any actions required to the member.

### **Accountability**

- The System Evaluation Advisory Group is accountable to the Rehabilitative Care Alliance Steering Committee for fulfilling its mandate and producing the deliverables (as described above) by agreed upon timelines.

### **Membership**

Given that the focus of this initiative is on reporting on rehab performance in the province and implementing quality improvement initiatives, this Task Group will be composed of individuals who play a role in decision support, quality improvement, health system evaluation and/or indicator development.

### **Advisory Group**

**Chair:** Imtiaz Daniel, Senior Director, Ontario Hospitals Association

### **Term**

The term of this Advisory Group is through March 2022.

### **Decision Making**

The Advisory Group will strive for consensus and will use voting when there is no clear agreement.

### **Meetings**

The Advisory Group will meet quarterly or as required to achieve the deliverables, throughout the course of the mandate. Additional meetings may be required to complete work according to project timelines. Webinars, teleconference and other formats will be used to facilitate meeting attendance.

### **Minutes**

Minutes shall be recorded for all meetings and circulated to committee members for dissemination/distribution to relevant stakeholders within each organization.

### **Communication**

The RCA secretariat will distribute meeting materials, via email, in advance of each meeting. Any documents that solicit feedback from committee members will be distributed via email. All documents approved for broad distribution will be posted on the Rehabilitative Care Alliance website.