RCA Progress Report:
Key Accomplishments

Q3 • 2024/25

Rehabilitative Care Alliance

This report provides partners with a "snapshot" of the RCA's major activities and key accomplishments over the previous quarter. Alignment with the RCA's strategic pillars (as outlined in our Strategic Framework) is indicated by coloured icons, as follows:

- **Speak with One Voice**
- **Foster Excellence in Care**
- **Partner for System Solutions**
- **Use Evidence to Drive Change**

PLEASE NOTE: Activities highlighted below are not inclusive of all efforts during this period, including the RCA's ongoing engagement with provincial representatives and pursuit of opportunities for further collaboration within the Ontario health care system.

Initiatives	Q3 Activity Highlights	Alignment with Strategic Pillar(s)
REHAB CARE STANDARDS *– Advancing the understanding and optimization of rehabilitative care resources; supporting the integration of rehabilitative care standards across the province.*	Began preliminary work to support OH West regional rehab network in reviewing rehab/CCC bedded programs relative to the RCA Framework for Bedded Levels of Rehabilitative Care (e.g., reviewed a draft template to collect essential information). When complete, findings may be used to better understand current state, increase awareness of rehabilitative care programs and optimize patient flow.	
SPECIALIZED REHAB *– Providing guidance to Ontario Health on integrating specialized rehabilitation across OHTs (for acquired brain injury, amputee, burn, cardiovascular, complex trauma, oncology, pulmonary, spinal cord injury and stroke populations).*	In collaboration with the relevant working groups, analyzed Pulmonary Rehab Survey results and reviewed to confirm alignment with specialized programs; reviewed and disseminated Specialized Stroke Rehab survey; reviewed Specialized ABI Rehab survey in preparation for dissemination.	
OLDER ADULTS LIVING WITH FRAILTY – *Supporting implementation of best practice standards of care and pathways to rehabilitative care for older adults living with/at risk of frailty.*	Continued to provide secondary implementation support to OHTs and regions that wish to implement Primary Care, ED and Paramedic Post-Fall Pathways. Met with representatives from nine partner organizations to discuss pathway implementation. Additionally, shared pathways through meetings with or presentations to: Vancouver Coastal Health; Fragility Fracture Network conference in Montreal, Departments of Emergency Medicine and Orthopaedics, Ohio State University.	
SYSTEM EVALUATION – *Standardizing the evaluation of rehabilitative care services at the provincial and regional levels to support evidence-based practice and system-wide improvement.*	Met with Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES) to better understand health equity data. Analyzed 2024 Rehab Provider Experience Survey results. Prepared data for annual publication of system performance report and dashboard.	
CAPACITY PLANNING *Initiating capacity planning activities to support Specialized Rehab and the implementation of OH Integrated Clinical Pathways.*	Continued to update 2015 RCA Capacity Planning Framework. Analyzed rehab utilization volumes for amputee, pulmonary and stroke rehab (inpatient and outpatient/community-based populations, as per project scope).	

Initiatives	Q3 Activity Highlights	Alignment with Strategic Pillar(s)
COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION – *Providing support and direction to OHTs to include a focus on community-based rehab as part of their planning for integrated care.*	Completed environmental scan on use of PROMs and PREMs to support the development of selection criteria, creation of a toolkit for use at the patient-clinician and organizational levels, and identification of a PROM/PREM to be used in a data reporting system for community-based rehabilitative care in Ontario. Sought feedback from task group and RCA patient/care partner advisors to further refine work to date.	
BUNDLED CARE – *Providing guidance to Ontario Health and rehabilitative care providers to support equitable access and quality care in the Bundled Care program, in alignment with total joint replacement best practices.*	Finalized dataset creation plan with ICES to support Applied Health Research Question (AHRQ) request for demographic, clinical and programmatic data for patients who received rehab after hip, knee, or shoulder arthroplasty as part of the 2023-24 bundled care program. Initiated a literature review on same-day discharge and its impact on rehabilitation needs pre- and post-operatively.	
WORKFORCE INITIATIVE – *Collaborating with provincial partners to advance workforce strategies that support greater recruitment, improved retention and a positive rehab provider experience across health care settings.*	Presented findings of 2024 Rehab Provider Experience Survey to task group and discussed feedback on a draft briefing note to the Ministry of Health regarding key rehab workforce strategies. Met with Ontario Council of University Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences about their initiative related to clinical education and workforce for rehabilitation professions. Met with a consult group of hospital operation leads to discuss education needs of rehab nurses; met with Canadian Nurses Association regarding rehab nursing as a specialty program.	

Looking Ahead

Over the next quarter, the RCA plans to:

- Present to the OH West Rehabilitative Care Partnership Table regarding the RCA bedded framework; provide support, as requested
- Continue to advance all specialized rehab surveys
- Continue to assist OHTs & regions implementing or preparing to implement post-fall pathways and/or the Expanded DAPP
- Continue to collaborate with other provincial leaders to support regional Rehab for Older Adults framework and ALC Leading Practices implementation; host next *From Frailty to Resilience* webinar
- Work to finalize RCA System Performance Dashboard for annual publication on OHA website
- Continue review and update of the 2015 RCA Capacity Planning Framework
- Release PROM & PREM Implementation Toolkit, including six PREM questions selected using a Modified Delphi Approach
- Complete an updated summary report 2018/19 – 2023/24 on the clinical profiles, patient-reported outcomes and rehab utilization of patients who undergo a hip, knee or shoulder arthroplasty through the bundled care program. Complete literature review of rehab and same-day discharge for hip and knee TJR; compare against current best practice framework and update the framework as needed.
- Use task group input to revise briefing note outlining key rehab workforce issues and strategies; continue to scope out rehabilitation nursing education needs and RCA's role in supporting this work

As always, we are immensely grateful for the many partners, including our patient and care partner advisors, who contribute to the RCA's efforts to strengthen and standardize rehabilitative care across the province.

RCA Secretariat

Supporting these and other initiatives are the Rehabilitative Care Alliance secretariat's three project managers: Sue Balogh,* Sharon Ocampo-Chan and Gabrielle Sadler. For more information about this report or the RCA's work to strengthen and standardize rehabilitative care in Ontario, please contact Charissa Levy,*† Executive Director.

* Staff shared with the GTA Rehab Network
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