



News Release

For Immediate Release

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HALTON HEALTHCARE SERVICES RECEIVES A MORE^{OB™} RECOGNITION AWARD

OAKVILLE, ON – The Birthing Units at Halton Healthcare Services (HHS) were recently awarded the MORE^{OB™} Recognition Award from *Salus Global*. The award recognizes the successful completion of the three year Managing Obstetrical Risk Efficiently (MORE^{OB™}) program by nurses, physicians and midwives in the Birthing Units at all three of the HHS hospitals.

“Obstetrical and neonatal care is a primary part of the Hospital services we offer at our Hospitals. The Birthing Units at HHS embarked on the three year MORE^{OB™} program in 2009 in an effort to further advance our already strong safety culture and management of obstetrical emergencies,” noted Cindy MacDonald, HHS Surgical and Maternal Child Program Director. “This series, focusing on building and sustaining a safety culture, allowed us to further develop our performance skills for those health professionals that provide care and support to women during labour and birth, including obstetricians, family physicians who attend births, midwives, and registered nurses.”

The MORE^{OB™} Program is designed to improve clinical outcomes, decrease risk of adverse events and improve the quality of work life. The entire program hinges on the first principle that safety is everyone’s priority. The Program consists of three modules, one for each year. The program was initiated in Fall 2009 with the module, *Learning Together*, which increases participants’ existing interprofessional core knowledge in common obstetrics and safety topics. Year two focused on improving team function and communication (*Working Together*) and finally the MORE^{OB™} Team at HHS wrapped up the Program with the final module entitled *Changing the Culture*, which focused on performance as a team effort.

“Congratulations to the MORE^{OB™} participants at all three of our hospitals for an outstanding effort in completing this program and having achieved a status worthy of being recognized by *Salus Global*,” stated Sylvia Rodgers, HHS Chief Nursing Officer & Professional Practice Leader. “Our teams will use this knowledge to continue their focus on safety and quality patient care, and to enhance overall patient satisfaction – ensuring that HHS continues to provide the highest quality of care possible during a family’s birthing experience.”

The Recognition Award is given to organizations that meet pre-set criteria in relation to completion of the MORE^{OB™} module activities as well as criteria for Core Team Functioning. To date only 11 out of 107 participating hospitals across Canada have received the Recognition Award, with HHS accounting for three of the 11 sites.

Initially developed by the Patient Safety Division of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC) the MORE^{OB}™ Program has been accredited by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, and the College of Family Physicians of Canada. It has also been endorsed by the Canadian Association of Midwives and Accreditation Canada.

Halton Healthcare Services is comprised of Georgetown Hospital, Milton District Hospital and Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital.

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A few Program team members are on hand at Georgetown Hospital to celebrate the completion of the MORE^{OB}™ educational series. **(l-r)** Dr. Don Trant, Georgetown Family Practice Program Medical Director and Associate Chief of Staff; Anna-Marie Merchant, Patient Care Manager for Obstetrics, Day Surgery and Ambulatory Care, [Julie Palmieri](#), RN and MORE^{OB}™ Core Team member; Carol Burton, RN and MORE OB Core Team member and Cindy McDonnell, Georgetown Hospital Chief Operating Officer.



A few Program team members are on hand at Milton District Hospital to celebrate the completion of the MORE^{OB}™ educational series.

(l-r) Janet Skupsky, Milton District Hospital Program Director and Chief Operating Officer, Emma Lewis RN, Co-Chair MORE^{OB}™, Jackie Goodban RN, Clinical Resource Nurse; Donna McPhail RN, Co-Chair MORE^{OB}; Jean Gallen RN, Clinical Resource Nurse; Monica Friesen, Patient Care Manager, Obstetrics and Medical/Surgical.



A few Program team members are on hand at Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital to celebrate the completion of the MORE^{OB}™ educational series. **(l-r)** Denise Cooke, Birthing Suite CRN, Denise Hardenne, HHS Executive Vice-President; Sylvia Rodgers, Chief Nursing Officer and Professional Practice Leader; Cindy MacDonald, HHS Maternal Child and Surgical Program Director; Diane Kent, Chief Midwife, Christi Robert, Professional Practice Clinician; Cathleen MacIssac, Administrative Assistant, Dr. Margaret Cawkwell, Family Physician; Dale Clement, Chief Operating Officer, Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital.