For Immediate Release

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Halton Healthcare Wins Digital Transformation Award

Halton Healthcare was recently awarded the top Digital Transformation Award by IT World Canada (ITWC), in the Large Public Sector category in recognition of its use of patient-centred technologies. This award further complements the Information Technology Association of Canada's Ingenious Award that Halton Healthcare received in 2018 for its "Smart Hospitals enabling Exemplary Patient Experiences" accomplishments.

"While our newly built "smart" hospitals give us a great foundation, in these ever-changing times, we know that Digital Transformation plays a vital role in improving the patient experience," explains Sandy Saggar, Chief Information Officer, Halton Healthcare.

"In order for digital transformation to be meaningful it is vital that you have input from patients, staff and physicians," continues Mr. Saggar. "With our Chief Medical Information Officer Dr. Allan Lee and other clinical leaders at the helm, and with feedback from our Patient and Family advisors, our teams are involved at every step. Our ability to leverage corporate culture, teamwork and ongoing support has been the key to our success."

Using state-of-the-art technology, everything from internal notification systems, mobile phones and real-time locating systems have been interconnected so patients can rest comfortably. For example, the hospital's alarm propagation system helps nurses monitor patient safety – especially high risk patients such as newborn babies and dementia patients, who may be prone to wandering.

"We are leveraging mobile technology to provide secure instant messaging to our frontline care teams," explains Dr. Lee. "All our nurses and clinicians are provided a multi-functional device. This gives them access to information and alerts, and allows them to stay connected to their patients in real-time. It also allows our staff to be untethered as they monitor and care for their patients."

The transformation also improved workflows and efficiencies, standardizing technology across its three hospitals. Currently it involves modernizing the electronic medical records system and further advancing clinical functionality to help improve quality of care and patient safety.

"This is a sterling example of what a healthcare organization can do when it places equal priority on providing top-quality care, end-user experiences and innovation," said ITWC President Fawn Annan. "Halton Healthcare's example is raising the bar across an entire industry."

Halton Healthcare Wins Digital Transformation Award (continued)

"It is amazing what can be achieved when we combine clinical transformation with access to technology. We are delighted to be the recipient of this very prestigious award from IT World Canada," noted Denise Hardenne, President and CEO, Halton Healthcare. "This award acknowledges the tremendous leadership of our Information Technology teams in collaboration with clinical teams, and the profound commitment of all physicians and staff to our vision of providing exemplary patient experiences, always."

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About Halton Healthcare:

Halton Healthcare is a healthcare organization comprised of three community hospitals - Georgetown Hospital, Milton District Hospital and Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital. Together these hospitals, along with their community locations, provide healthcare services to nearly 400,000 residents in the communities of Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville. Halton Healthcare hospitals have been recognized for their best practices in a number of patient safety and patient care initiatives. For more information, visit www.haltonhealthcare.com.

Media Contact:
Zita Taksas-Raponi
Communications Specialist
Communications & Public Affairs Department, Halton Healthcare
zraponi@haltonhealthcare.com