



ANNOUNCEMENT: TASK FORCE ON MEDICATION MANAGEMENT

We are happy to announce the launch of the Task Force on Medication Management in support of our commitment to strengthen medication management practices in the Long-Term Care sector. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) in partnership with the Ontario Long-Term Care Association (OLTCA), the Ontario Association of Non-Profit Homes & Services for Seniors (OANHSS) and the Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada (ISMP) have worked to bring together a team of leading experts in the field of medication management in Long-Term Care.

What will the Task Force do?

The Task Force will identify practical means to improve medication safety in homes and, equally important, provide an opportunity to learn from LTC providers with leading practices. The mandate of the Task Force is to identify methods to maximize appropriate medication management practices (systems and use) in the care of residents. To achieve this, the Task Force will engage homes, practitioners, policy makers and other experts to build continuous medication safety improvement capacity. This collaboration is a continuation of the quality agenda and builds on the dialogue initiated through the recently completed LTC Quality Summits.

Membership

We are pleased to have as co-chairs, Kris Wichman, ISMP Canada's Project Leader for the Ontario Medication Safety Support Service initiatives and National Leader for Long Term Care projects and Ross Baker a health services researcher and internationally recognized expert in patient safety with the University of Toronto. The Task Force membership is comprised of representatives from OLTCA and OANHSS, Long-Term Care Homes, the Ontario Long-Term Care Physicians Association (OLTCPA), the College of Pharmacists (OCP) and the Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs).

Approach

The Task Force will have its first meeting in June and we expect to share updates as well as an interim report in 6 months and a final report in a year. Look forward to updates on this website.

Co-Chair Biographies



G. Ross Baker, Ph.D

G. Ross Baker is a professor in the Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation at the University of Toronto. Baker co-chairs a working group on methods and measures for patient safety for the World Health Organization and chairs the Advisory Committee on Research and Evaluation for the Canadian Patient Safety Institute. He also serves as chair of the Measurement Working Group and as a member of the Steering Committee for the Safer Healthcare Now! campaign (the Canadian adaptation of the U.S. “100,000 Lives” initiative). He is a member of the Board of the Health Quality Council of Saskatchewan, the Board of the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) Canada, and the Clinical Standards, Guidelines and Quality Committee of Cancer Care Ontario

His current research focuses on analyzing five high performing health care systems that have been successful in using improvement tools and knowledge to transform outcomes. Other projects include the study of effective governance practices in improving quality and patient safety and an assessment of the legislative, legal and policy barriers to enhanced adverse event reporting and learning in Canada.

Baker was principal investigator for the project “Adverse Events in Canadian Hospitals” and together with Peter Norton and a team of investigators across Canada published the results of the study in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal* in 2004.

Kristina Wichman, RPh, BScPhm, FCSHP



Kris is ISMP Canada’s Project Leader for the Ontario Medication Safety Support Service initiatives and National Leader for Long Term Care projects. ISMP Canada is a not-for-profit organization committed to identifying risks in medication use systems, recommending optimal system safeguards, and advancing safe medication practices.

Kris has many years of experience in a variety of roles, both administrative and clinical, in acute care and long term care. As well, she has work experience as a senior executive; her position just prior to joining ISMP Canada was Vice President Professional Affairs with the Ontario Pharmacists’ Association. She has been President of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists. Kris has provided consulting services which have included pharmacy department operational reviews in a number of Ontario hospitals and been active in teaching undergraduate and postgraduate pharmacy students.