

Surgery Consolidation

Executive Sponsor: Brock Wright

Project Sponsor: Laurie Walus, Rick Nason

Program/Dept: Surgery

Project Manager: Karen Murphy

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Finish Date: June 30, 2009

Background

Access to acute surgical services and patient safety are at risk within the current Service Model, contributing factors include:

- Gaps in Physician On-Call Schedules
- Increasing Acute Surgery Load at HSC
- Increase in Acute Surgical Volumes
- Demand for Acute Surgery in Evenings or Nights
- Access to Acute Surgery by Referral Sites and
- Trends in Surgical Sub-Specialization.

The project goal is to consolidate (targeted) surgical services to address the access to services and patient safety issues.

Results:

The following details the results of the three phase implementation plan:

Phase 1:

Effective December 1, 2008 the WRHA Surgery Program implemented the Surgical Consolidation Initiative to facilitate the sustainability and to promote the timely accessibility of General Surgery Acute Care Surgical Services within the Region.

Effective January 1, 2009, the General Surgery Acute Care Surgical Services (ACSS) shifted to a 3 site model (GGH, SBGH & HSC) to enhance service delivery and safety of patient care. The General Surgery ACSS Physician Call Schedules at these 3 sites were modified to accommodate the patient volumes from VGH and SOGH. In collaboration with the sites, a Patient Flow Process was established to streamline the communication and access to General Surgery ACSS.

Phase 2:

The second of three phases of surgery consolidation were completed in early-May 2009. This phase included shifts of Orthopedic Services, ENT Services, Oral Surgery Services, Urology Services and Plastic Surgery Services as follows:

- Orthopedic Services from Victoria General Hospital (VGH) to Seven Oaks General Hospital (SOGH), Grace Hospital (GH) and Concordia Hospital (CH);
- ENT Services from SOGH and GH to VGH;
- Oral Surgery Services from CH and some services from Health Sciences Centre (HSC) to SOGH;
- Urology Services from CH to GH; and
- Plastic Surgery services from GH to VGH.