

Community IV Program

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Program/Dept: Home Care

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Start Date: July 2006

Finish Date: September 2008

The goal of this project is to implement a new model of care delivery and expand to an uncapped service to accept all eligible patients in the Winnipeg Region. The expanded service is being implemented to decrease congestion in Emergency Departments, improve patient flow-through in hospitals, and enhance care for this patient population.

In October 2005, the Community IV Therapy Program capacity was increased from 40 to 50 spots to decrease scheduled visits in the Concordia ED by referring these clients to Access River East IV Anti-Infective and Wound Care Clinic. Five of those spots were allocated to patients undergoing staged joint revisions involving long-term antibiotic therapy. Even with the increased capacity, the CIVP is experiencing a growing waitlist, resulting in eligible patients waiting longer in hospital. The Project will also include a detailed assessment and streamlining of nursing, pharmacy and scheduling processes and a reorganization of nursing services.

Fundamental tenets for the new CIVP are client independence, evidence based care and user-friendly service. All patients admitted to the program will be assessed by an Infectious Disease physician, either prior to referral to the program for inpatients or in the clinic for Emergency patients. In the past all these clients were managed in the home or Emergency Departments. In the new model, most will attend clinic at ACCESS Transcona or Lions Place, or will be taught self-care. Only those clients who meet specific criteria will receive home nursing services.

Implementation will involve a phased approach to allow the program to manage the expansion (from about 50 patients to approximately 130 patients) and to provide the required support to each site. Implementation will involve the introduction of new inpatient and emergency specific processes, referral forms and patient teaching information. Restructured Pharmacy services are already in place and delivered at Concordia Hospital. Community hospitals will be brought on first, followed by the tertiary sites and Misericordia Urgent Care. SOGH will begin the implementation schedule with a start date of February 12th, 2008. Full implementation is scheduled over approximately a 6-month period.