



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, April 18, 2011

First patient at PRHC's new GAIN clinic

Geriatric Assessment service aims to reduce unnecessary ED visits and ALC days

On Monday, Apr. 18, the new GAIN clinic at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre will see its first patient.

The GAIN (Geriatric Assessment and Intervention Network) Clinic is designed to ensure better outcomes for frail seniors and reduce unnecessary emergency department visits and ALC days, by strengthening supports and services for seniors living at risk in the community.

The new clinic at PRHC has been created as part of a unique \$4.8 million program to build an integrated system of care for frail elderly clients in the Central East LHIN. Clinics have been launched at the four largest hospitals in the region: Lakeridge Health, Rouge Valley Health System, The Scarborough Hospital and PRHC. These clinics are a key component to creating an integrated system of care with enhanced geriatric services.

GAIN supports seniors aged 75+, who present as frail and require rapid assessment, including seniors with multiple complex medical, functional, mental health and psychosocial problems; recent functional or cognitive decline; and individuals at risk for falls, or who have had frequent falls.

Appointments with the GAIN clinic are available by referral only. Referrals can be made directly from the ER, for urgent assessment within 24-48 hours, by a Family Physician or Nurse Practitioner in the community, or from inpatient services when the patient is being discharged home.

PRHC's specialized, inter-professional geriatric assessment team includes two Nurse Practitioners, a Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist, Social Worker, Pharmacist, two CCAC Health Career Case Managers, access to a supporting Physician/Geriatrician and dedicated clerical support.

This inter-professional team will assess clients who live at home or in retirement residence. Long-term care residents are excluded from the program.

Note: PRHC's first GAIN patient and clinic staff will be available for brief interviews and photographs shortly after 3 p.m. on Monday, April 18. Please contact Cindy Doris for details and to schedule.

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For more information:

Cindy Doris
Manager, Cardiac Cath Lab & Ambulatory Clinics
(705) 743-2121 x. 3137
cdoris@prhc.on.ca