

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Health Centre's HSMR rate drops to 86 in 2010/2011 Significant reduction credited to targeted intervention efforts

The Canadian Institute of Health Information (CIHI) today released its provincial report on Hospital Standardized Mortality Rates (HSMR) in Ontario. PRHC is very pleased to report that our HSMR has successfully been reduced to 86 – a phenomenal achievement for Health Centre staff and physicians.

This accomplishment is significant in that it is the result of targeted intervention by the hospital to improve HSMR performance.

“Patients should know that our hospital is safe, that the care they receive here is top-notch, and that we are committed to ensuring our patients receive the highest-quality care,” said Dr. Peter McLaughlin, Chair, Medical Advisory Committee and Chief Medical Officer.

“The hospital's HSMR results for 2011 are proof of this commitment, and evidence of how our ongoing efforts continue to deliver results.”

PRHC submitted its Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) to Health Quality Ontario in April 2011. One of the targets set in the QIP was an HSMR rate of less than 99 in 2010/11 – a reduction from the hospital's 2009/10 result of 110. The rate of 86 exceeded that goal by a significant margin.

Trending HSMR results for seven consecutive years helps show how our HSMR has changed in relation to our quality improvement efforts. Each year, the results are carefully reviewed and opportunities for improvement are identified.

Overall, Ontario's hospitals have collectively improved their HSMR results since we first began tracking HSMR rates in 2004-05. Next year, CIHI will re-baseline their data to ensure that we continue to strive for optimum patient care across the province.

PRHC's Quality Improvement Plan is posted on our public website at www.prhc.on.ca. This is one more way we are staying accountable to our community, patients, and staff and demonstrating our commitment to improving the care we provide.

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**Peterborough Regional Health Centre
HSMR Data: 2004-2011**

	HSMR*		HSMR* 95% CI
2004-2005	106		96-116
2005-2006	108		99-119
2006-2007	106		96-116
2007-2008	109		99-120
2008-2009	97		87-107
2009-2010	110	§	100-121
2010-2011	86	§	76-96

Notes:

* Previously referred to as *HSMR All Cases*

95% CI 95 percent confidence interval

§ The result is statistically different from the 2004–2005 baseline HSMR of 100 ($p < 0.05$)

What Is the HSMR?

The hospital standardized mortality ratio (HSMR) is a “big-dot” summary measure that is used to track a hospital’s mortality over time. The HSMR is a tool that allows hospitals to measure and monitor their progress in quality of care.

Definition and Interpretation of the HSMR

The HSMR is the ratio of actual (observed) deaths to expected deaths. It focuses on the diagnosis groups that account for the majority of in-hospital deaths. Using a logistic regression model, it is adjusted for several factors that affect in-hospital mortality, including age, sex, length of stay, admission category, diagnosis group, comorbidity and transfer from another acute care institution.

An HSMR equal to 100 suggests that there is no difference between a local mortality rate and the average national experience, given the types of patients cared for. An HSMR greater or less than 100 suggests that a local mortality rate is higher or lower than the national experience, respectively.

As with last year’s public release, we are including a symbol (§) to identify if the HSMR result being reported is statistically different from the 2004–2005 baseline of 100 ($p < 0.05$). See the Methodology section for additional information.

Data and text source: Canadian Institute of Health Information (CIHI) HSMR 2011 Report