



## **Peterborough Regional Renal Program to offer Home Hemodialysis** *First patient begins treatment this month* **March 22, 2011**

Peterborough, ON - Peterborough Regional Health Centre (PRHC), along with its partners Northumberland Hills Hospital and Ross Memorial Hospital, is pleased to announce that patients in the region with end-stage renal disease now have the option of home hemodialysis.

The program will be funded by the Central East (CE) LHIN and complements the Peterborough Regional Renal Program's in-centre hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis programs. Home hemodialysis ensures patient-focused care that is aligned with the objectives of the CE LHIN's Renal Network and the Ontario Renal Network.

The program's first patient has started the training for home dialysis. Home hemodialysis will begin with a cohort of eight patients, expanding to approximately 25 over three years.

### **What is Home Hemo & what are the Advantages?**

Home hemodialysis involves placing the hemodialysis machine, water treatment unit and plumbing in a patient's home. Following extensive education and training, the patient performs the dialysis procedure and directs the treatment, promoting self management.

"Home therapies provide a number of advantages over in-centre dialysis," says Dr. Garth Hanson, Medical Director, Regional Renal Program. "Patients can enjoy greater autonomy and quality of life with home-based therapies. There is also evidence of improved outcomes, fewer hospitalizations and decreased use of medications when patients can administer treatment in their own environment."

In the CE LHIN, renal disease accounts for 8% for all vascular-related medical conditions. Home hemodialysis supports the CE LHIN's strategic aims to reduce the impact of vascular disease in the CE LHIN by 10% by 2013 and to save 1,000,000 hours of time patients spend in CE LHIN Emergency Departments by 2013.

"Through this type of leadership and innovation, patients living with chronic kidney disease will now have access to more health care options, that will not only improve their quality of life, but will also support a positive impact on the overall healthcare system," said Deborah Hammons, CEO, CE LHIN. "Providing more home based therapies is an example of how the Central East LHIN and its health service providers are improving the health of our population, enhancing patient experience and creating better value for money for our health care dollar."

### **Three Hospitals: Delivering on Strategic Plan through Partnership**

In September, PRHC, Ross Memorial Hospital and Northumberland Hills Hospital, along with the Peterborough site of Dialysis Management Centre Inc. (DMC) and the Peterborough Regional Nephrology Associates (PRNA) released a new strategic plan. In addition to life-saving services provided in their hemodialysis centres, this shared plan commits the partner organizations to working collaboratively to expand access to home dialysis in the region with a goal to have a minimum of 30% of all candidate patients in the region on a home dialysis modality by 2013.

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