



A virtual team for primary care providers

May 2025 Newsletter

Doctors' Day: May 1, 2025

A message from Lynn Guerriero, President and CEO and Dr. Kevin Chan, Executive Vice-President, Medical; Chief of Staff

Niagara Health is proud to recognize the contributions of our more than 600 physicians — and the many more in the broader medical community — on Doctors' Day, Thursday, May 1.

This day is an important reminder of the compassion, expertise and dedication physicians bring to their work every day. At Niagara Health, we are deeply grateful to our physician partners for their integral role in transforming care — not only within our walls, but throughout the region.

The past few years have brought significant challenges and change to the healthcare landscape. Through it all, physicians have shown unwavering resolve, professionalism and adaptability. We have seen firsthand how you continue to go above and beyond to meet the evolving needs of patients and families across Niagara. You have continued to lead with purpose, showing resilience, compassion and an unwavering focus on delivering the best possible outcomes for your patients.

Our partnerships with community physicians have been foundational to our progress. Together, we have made meaningful progress — expanding access to care, improving collaboration between the hospital and community and laying the foundation for a more connected health system in Niagara. We are proud of what we have accomplished together and are excited about the continued opportunities to enhance care and outcomes for the people we serve.

Doctors' Day is a time to pause and recognize not only your daily contributions, but the lasting impact of your service. We thank you for your sacrifice, leadership and ongoing commitment to care in Niagara. We are honoured to work alongside you.

Niagara Health introduces new pediatric pathway to connect unattached children and youth with primary care

Niagara Health is proud to announce the launch of a new pediatric pathway designed to connect unattached pediatric patients – children and youth without a family doctor – to ongoing primary care across the Niagara region.

The new initiative was developed in response to a clear gap in the healthcare system — where many pediatric patients leave the hospital without a primary care provider to support their long-term health needs. With the launch of this new pathway, children and youth from birth to 18 who present at the hospital without a family doctor will be provided with information about physicians and community health centres currently accepting patients.

We're grateful to the providers in St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland, Port Colborne, Fort Erie and Wainfleet who have committed to this important effort. This initiative will help ensure smoother transitions from hospital to home and strengthen collaboration between hospital and

**Read the full
story**

Spotlight: SCOPE mental health pathway

Primary care providers are reminded that the SCOPE mental health pathway is available to provide psychiatry consultation and connect clinicians with hospital and community-based mental health resources.

The service is designed to support patient care in primary settings by helping divert individuals from emergency departments when appropriate, and may reduce the need to refer to the Centralized Access to Psychiatric Services (CAPS) program. When necessary, CAPS appointments can be expedited.

For more information or to access the pathway, [contact the SCOPE team directly](#).

Visit the Primary Care Provider webpage for ongoing updates

SCOPE Niagara is a partnership between Niagara Health, Niagara Practitioners Healthcare Alliance and Home and Community Care - as part of the Niagara Ontario Health Team.

Visit the SCOPE Niagara website

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