

Media Release



For Immediate Release

July 22, 2010

Extendicare Falconbridge Reduces Its Emergency Department Transfers By 42%

Sudbury.... Extendicare Falconbridge is participating in an Emergency Department Outreach Service (EDOS) initiative that has reduced the number of residents transferred to emergency departments by 42 per cent.

The home highlighted this initiative to Christina Bisanz, CEO of the Ontario Long Term Care Association (OLTCA), today as part of the home's ongoing quality improvement thrust.

EDOS is part of Ontario's Nursing Outreach Program and the North East LHIN Aging at Home Strategy. Where deemed medically appropriate, EDOS enables residents to receive both urgent and non-urgent emergency department services in the comfort of their own room, within the long term care home, from ER nurses who provide the care onsite.

"Not only do residents get access to the increased care level that they need at that time but the care is delivered in familiar and comfortable surroundings," said James Foreman, Administrator at Extendicare Falconbridge, "This eliminates the stress of being transferred to the hospital and, very often, having to wait in an unfamiliar and rushed environment."

In addition to participating in the EDOS initiative, the home is also involved in a number of other innovative quality improvement initiatives such as the Pressure Ulcer Awareness Program, a collaborative with the Canadian Association of Wound Care, and the utilization of technology such as eMAR (Electronic Medication Administration Record), Point of Care Tablets and Digital Pens, to enhance care delivery efficiency and accuracy.

"The EDOS and other initiatives in this home are examples of how long term care is positively impacting resident care and often with benefits for access to healthcare in their community," said Ms. Bisanz. "The leadership in embracing partnerships, technology and other factors that support this innovative thrust is evident across the province."

Ms. Bisanz, who is touring a number of OLTCA member homes across Ontario, said: "The sector is demonstrating its commitment to, and expertise in, meeting the changing needs of aging residents with more complex medical conditions, as part of a more effective healthcare system for all Ontarians."

OLTCA represents the not-for-profit, charitable, private and municipal operators of 428 long term care homes that provide care and services to some 50,000 residents throughout Ontario.

Extendicare Falconbridge is a 234 bed home that has been helping meet the long term care needs of Sudbury residents for 38 years.

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