

DATE: March 19, 2021

MEMORANDUM TO: Health Service Providers

FROM: Mark Brintnell, Vice President, Quality, Performance and Accountability

RE: Transfer Order Notice

March 17, 2021, the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, issued a series of orders transferring the Local Health Integration Networks' (LHINs) health system planning and funding functions to Ontario Health. These transfers will be effective as of April 1, 2021.

The *Connecting Care Act, 2019* (the "Act"), which was proclaimed into force on June 6, 2019, creates the framework for health system transformation in Ontario, including the integration of more than 20 health care agencies into Ontario Health. Several have already been transferred and on April 1, 2021, the LHINs' health system planning and funding functions will transfer into Ontario Health too – as part of the government's plan to integrate the health care system and build a better, more connected system centered around the needs of patients. None of the LHINs' direct patient care activities (i.e., delivery of home care and long-term care home placement services) are being transferred to Ontario Health.

Ontario Health has been working closely with the Ministry of Health and LHIN leadership, myself included, to approach the transfer of LHIN health system planning and funding functions thoughtfully. All decisions have been made very carefully with continuity of patient care and provider services top of mind. There will be no impact to direct patient care during or following these transfers, with each of the LHINs continuing to provide and support the delivery of home care and long-term care home placements, and facilitate access to community services, under a new operating name, *Home and Community Care Support Services*.

The Minister's transfer order specifies the employees, assets, liabilities, rights and obligations, including funding agreements and other contracts, that are being transferred to Ontario Health. The transferring elements are those that are linked to South West LHINs' health system planning and funding functions and do not include the delivery of home care and long-term care placement services and facilitation of access to community services. You will be able to find the transfer order, in both English and French, on our website later today as well as on the Ministry of Health's website and Ontario Health's website (www.ontariohealth.ca).

As of April 1, 2021, Ontario Health will assume all rights and obligations in respect of ALL service accountability agreements that have been entered into by South West LHIN with health service providers. Aside from the assumption of these agreements by Ontario Health, all of their terms and conditions will remain the same. This transfer also impacts the Service Accountability Agreements (HSAA, MSAA & LSAA), which will move to Ontario Health and maintain their existing terms and funding arrangements.

Please continue to perform and provide services as usual in accordance with the terms of the service accountability agreement(s). The performance review process will also remain the same post-transfer, and at the time of transfer, you can continue to work with the same individuals with whom you already work, unless otherwise notified, and submit inquiries through the same process.

If you have any questions, please direct them to your current contact who can assist you.

We will continue to keep you informed with updates as necessary throughout this transition period. We appreciate your support as we continue to support the delivery of high-quality patient care in Ontario.