

PRIMARY CARE CANCER CONNECT

SUMMER 2022 ISSUE

Mississauga Halton Central
West Regional Cancer Program
Ontario Health (Cancer Care Ontario)

A Message from the Regional Vice President, Dr. Joan Murphy

I hope you are doing well and enjoying the warm weather that is upon us.

I'm very pleased to have assumed the role of the Regional Vice President for the Mississauga Halton Central West Regional Cancer Program earlier this year. It has been an exciting journey thus far, and I look forward to working with our leaders and healthcare providers to provide safe, compassionate, quality care to our patients, their family members, caregivers, and loved ones.



While we continue to navigate the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, we are working behind the scenes on refreshing our strategic plan with an appreciation of the end-to-end cancer pathway. We remain steadfast in our commitment to improve program and patient outcomes by focusing on opportunities to reduce wait times and improve quality of care.

As well, work continues on updating our website to create an improved online experience for patients, clinicians, and partners. We will share further updates on these projects in the coming months.

We celebrated **National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21** with an ongoing commitment to improve cancer care and reduce inequities in care for the Region's First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people, in partnership with the Indigenous Cancer Care Unit and existing Indigenous groups and organizations in the Region.

On **June 26**, we observed the **National Cancer Wellness Awareness Day**, recognizing that wellness is an integral part of a patient's comprehensive cancer care. Wellness, of course, is also vital for primary care providers, particularly in these difficult times.

As you are seeing, in the last 30 months, the pandemic has significantly impacted cancer volumes and created a sizeable backlog. We continue to recognize the importance of primary care in the efforts to address this gap.

In the meantime, we will continue to support our patients and each other, because the impacts of the work we do now will be felt for years to come. Thank you for your tireless, unwavering commitment and perseverance. Together, we will improve cancer care in our region.

OUR REGIONAL LEADS



Dr. Alexandra Ginty

Regional Primary Care Lead -
Cancer Screening (Mississauga
Halton)



Dr. Praveen Bansal

Regional Primary Care Lead -
Cancer Screening (Central
West)

Stay connected

Unanswered questions? Specific challenges? Contact us at mhcwrcp@thp.ca to receive the latest updates directly to your inbox and follow us on Twitter ([@MHCW_Cancer](https://twitter.com/MHCW_Cancer)).

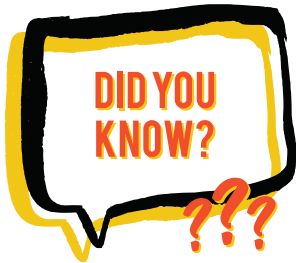
UPCOMING HEALTH PROMOTION DAYS

Glioblastoma (GBM) Awareness Day: July 20
International Self-Care Day: July 24
World Humanitarian Day: August 19
Prostate Cancer Awareness Month: September
Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month: September
Childhood Cancer Awareness Month: September



If you require any printed First Nations, Inuit, Métis and Urban Indigenous cancer screening resources, email us at mhcwrcp@thp.ca with the quantity required and your practice's address. We will be happy to send them your way.

Cancer screening



OBSP self-referrals:

Patients can self-refer for an OBSP screening? Primary care providers do not need to sign requisitions for OBSP screenings. The OBSP site information and contact number is listed on the patient's recall letter.

Self-referrals will streamline the appointment booking process and save primary care providers time as they will have one less form to sign!

Pap testing:

Based on new evidence, Pap testing standards have changed. The OH-CCO is now recommending that primary care providers perform Pap tests every 3 years for women who are or have been sexually active starting at age 25.

This is due to existing evidence that suggests changes in cervical cells usually resolve on their own in those under 25, and the incidence of cervical cancer under 25 is extremely low.

We need YOU!

More and more patients become unattached as family doctors retire.

Patients who test FIT positive need to be attached. Can you do it?

Fill out this [form](#) and return it via fax at 416-971-6888 or by emailing cancerinfo@ontariohealth.ca.

Additional resources

- OBSP locations in Ontario
<https://www.cancercareontario.ca/en/find-cancer-services/breast-screening-locations>
- Find cancer services across Ontario
<https://www.cancercareontario.ca/en/find-cancer-services>
- OH-CCO's screening programs
<https://www.cancercareontario.ca/en/cancer-care-ontario/programs/screening-programs>
- Ontario Health Indigenous cancer resources
<https://www.cancercareontario.ca/en/resources-first-nations-inuit-metis>
 - Indigenous relationship and cultural awareness courses
<https://www.cancercareontario.ca/en/resources-first-nations-inuit-metis/first-nations-inuit-metis-courses>