

# Birthing units at Halton hospitals receive recognition

The birthing units at Halton Healthcare Services' (HHS) hospitals are receiving praise for their level of service.

For completing a three-year Managing Obstetrical Risk Efficiently (MORE) program, Milton District, Georgetown and Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial hospitals have each been given the MORE Recognition Award by Salus Global — a company dedicated to building safer health-care systems throughout Canada, the United States and around the world.

"Obstetrical and neonatal care is a primary part of the services we offer at our hospitals," said HHS Surgical and Maternal Child Program Director Cindy MacDonald, explaining how the birthing units at each hospital got involved in the program in 2009 to further advance their strong safety culture and management of obstetrical emergencies.

"This series, focusing on building and sustaining a safer culture, allowed us to further develop our performance skills for those health professionals that provide care and support to women during labour and birth, including

obstetricians, family physicians who attend births, midwives, and registered nurses," she said.

The program, which was developed by the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada and the Health Insurance Reciprocal of Canada, is designed to improve clinical outcomes, decrease risk of adverse events and improve the quality of work life. The entire program hinges on the first principle that safety is everyone's priority. More than 107 hospitals are participating in the program across Canada. To date, only 11 have received the award, which is given to hospitals that meet pre-set criteria related to completing MORE module activities and criteria for core team functioning.

HHS Chief Nursing Officer and Professional Practice Leader Sylvia Rodgers said the hospital teams will use the knowledge to "continue their focus on safety and quality patient care, and to enhance overall patient satisfaction — ensuring that HHS continues to provide the highest quality of care possible during a family's birthing experience."



The birthing units at Halton Healthcare Services' (HHS) hospitals recently received recognition for completing a three-year Managing Obstetrical Risk Efficiently (MORE) program. Here celebrating at Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital are, from left, Birthing Suite CRN Denise Cooke, HHS Executive Vice-President Denise Hardenne, Chief Nursing Officer and Professional Practice Leader Sylvia Rodgers, HHS Maternal Child and Surgical Program Director Cindy MacDonald, Chief Midwife Diane Kent, Professional Practice Clinician Christi Robert, Administrative Assistant Cathleen MacIssac, family physician Dr. Margaret Cawkwell and Oakville-Trafalgar Chief Operating Officer Dale Clement. Courtesy of Halton Healthcare Services

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