

# Ontario General Medicine Quality Improvement Network

UPDATE  
No. 1  
Dec 2020

28

Number of hospital sites participating in GEMINI/GeMQIN and the COVID-19 Laboratory

76

Number of members in the GeMQIN Community of Practice

7

Number of original sites that have shared data and will receive the 2nd round of MyPractice reports

GEMINI—General Medicine Inpatient Initiative

GeMQIN—Ontario General Medicine Quality Improvement Network

## Milestones Timeline

**June 2020:** Launch of COVID-19 Laboratory and the expansion of the network

**Aug 18, 2020:** Inaugural GeMQIN Community of Practice webinar

**Sept 15, 2020:** Lessons learned on the COVID-19 provincial response shared with CoP

**Dec 2020 to Apr 30, 2021:** Sites receive MyPractice v2.0 reports

**Jan 22, 2021:** Deadline for sites to send data for timely MyPractice reports

## A Note From Our Co-Leads

### Pivoting in the Pandemic

Hospital care has been dramatically reorganized to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been a pleasure to work with you to build the GEMINI COVID-19 Laboratory, which will provide frequently updated, high-quality data to enable quality reporting and novel research using the largest cohort of COVID-19 inpatients in Canada. To support this work, the GEMINI/GeMQIN program is focusing on COVID-19 management in hospitals. We're delighted to share this update on the program's activities with you.

— Amol Verma and Fahad Razak, Project Co-Leads

## Community of Practice

### GeMQIN Community of Practice (CoP)

The GeMQIN CoP brings together hospital teams who are interested in sharing their experiences, challenges, and innovative ideas for caring for hospital patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. These well-attended webinars and virtual discussions feature content and speakers from organizations participating in GeMQIN. All CoP meeting slide decks and recordings are made available in the GeMQIN CoP online discussion group in [Quorum](#).

#### SEPTEMBER CoP Call: Response Planning and Preparedness

- An overview of the provincial and Ontario Health COVID-19 command tables and committees that support Ontario Health and the province was shared
- Dr. Jennifer Everson presented data about the impact of COVID-19 in the HNHBA area, lessons learned and their preparation for wave 2 of COVID-19. Pete Crvenkovski shared cost data pertaining to COVID-19 impact and resources

#### OCTOBER CoP Call: Ward Organization and Team Structure for COVID-19

- The University Health Network shared their approach, as well as a suite of tools and resources from the [Toronto COVID Collective](#) to support management of COVID-19 patients
- William Osler Hospital presented their experiences managing care during the COVID-19 pandemic, including cohorting patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19, caring for people under investigation for COVID-19, ensuring the right level of care for all patients, distribution of staff, and staff wellness

#### NOVEMBER CoP CALL: Update on the Clinical Care of COVID-19

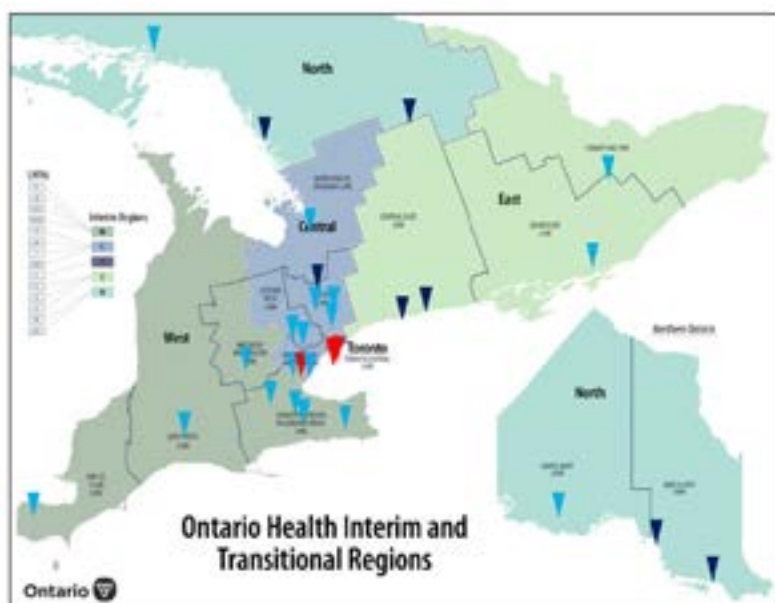
- Dr. Derek McFadden (Ottawa Hospital) summarized the latest research about therapeutics for COVID-19
- Dr. Marko Mrkobrado and Dr. Erin Spicer (London Health Sciences Centre) described their innovative virtual COVID-19 clinic. The clinic provides remote oximetry and ongoing clinical assessment to outpatients with COVID-19 to reduce hospitalization for those who don't need it and expedite access for those who require it. This initiative has led to both admission avoidance and cost savings

## Featured Accomplishments

Hospitals have been sharing regularly updated data with GEMINI to support COVID-19-related analytics. Here are two articles that highlight some of this work:

- [Simulation modelling to develop requirements for providing virtual care for residents of long-term care homes: a cross-sectional study \(CMAJ Open\)](#)—Modelling based on over 235,000 general internal medicine hospitalizations helped describe the resources that would be needed to provide virtual urgent medical care for LTC facilities. This helped launch LTC+, a program that now provides virtual consultation to over 50 LTC homes in the Toronto area
- [Prediction of personal protective equipment use in hospitals during COVID-19](#) (arXiv preprint, undergoing peer review)—This modelling study used detailed GEMINI data, including about 15 different types of clinical interactions and interviews with subject matter experts, to create adaptable models that can estimate PPE demand on hospital units

## Map of Participating Hospitals



▲ = Phase 1 sites  
▲ = Phase 2 sites  
▲ = Interested sites

Region	Participating Sites	Interested Sites
North	1	2
East	3	1
West	9	-
Central	8	2
Toronto	7	-

## Coming Up

We are continuing to work with organizations to obtain Research Ethics Board (REB) approvals, execute Data Sharing Agreements (DSA), and finalize data extraction/transfer processes. **Please note that in order to receive MyPractice: General Medicine Reports in a timely manner for April 30, 2021, GEMINI must receive your organization's data by January 22, 2021—otherwise the reports will be delayed.**

### Upcoming Community of Practice Calls and Themes:

- Dec 16/20 @ 12 p.m.: Clinical care and outcomes from wave 1 of Covid-19 in Toronto area
- Jan 19/21 @ 12 p.m.: Hospitals working with community partners
- Feb 17/21 @ 12 p.m.: Effects of COVID-19 on inpatient volume, case mix, outcomes
- Mar 17/21 @ 12 p.m.: Proposed indicators for hospital practice reports

All hospitals across Ontario are welcome to join the community of practice by contacting us at [OH-HQO\\_GeMQIN@ontariohealth.ca](mailto:OH-HQO_GeMQIN@ontariohealth.ca).

Please forward your ideas about program activities to the same email!