

Local Health Integration Network appoints two more Primary Care Physician Leads in local communities
Working with local partners to deliver coordinated care

NEWS

October 13, 2016

The Central East Local Health Integration Network (Central East LHIN) is pleased to announce the appointment of two more local Primary Care Physician Leads as the Central East LHIN continues to lead the advancement of an integrated sustainable health care system that ensures better health, better care and better value.

Recruited through a procurement process supported by the Central East Community Care Access Centre (Central East CCAC), the two new local Primary Care Physician Leads are:

- Dr. Rahim Ladak – Durham North East
- Dr. Lubna Tirmizi – Durham West

Working in partnership with Dr. Paul Caulford, Central East LHIN Primary Care Physician Lead, the six local Primary Care Physician Leads are now working with their physician colleagues and other health service providers to improve system access in their local communities through the provincial [Health Links](#) initiative, ensuring that patients with complex health needs are identified and better supported through coordinated care plans to achieve the best possible health outcomes

The Central East LHIN is continuing to actively recruit a local Primary Care Physician Lead in the Northumberland County community to ensure that all seven of the Central East LHIN's sub-regions (*Health Link* communities) benefit from the additional transformative leadership of a locally-based Primary Care Physician Lead. The appointment of Primary Care Physician Leads in each sub-region supports the implementation of *Health Links*, the [Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#) and the ongoing design and implementation of integrated systems of care as described in the [LHIN's 2016 -2019 Integrated Health Service Plan \(IHSP\)](#).

QUOTES

“We welcome the ongoing support of the local Primary Care Physician Leads in engaging with other primary care providers in each of the LHIN's sub-regions to seek their active participation in *Health Links* and the advancement of integrated systems of care. Already we have seen how integrated teams of health care providers, in partnership with patients and their caregivers, are using *Health Links* Coordinated Care Plans to provide timely and coordinated care so that people are able to live healthier at home rather than having to continually return to a hospital emergency department or be readmitted to the hospital.”

- Deborah Hammons, CEO, Central East LHIN

“The *Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care* and the Central East LHIN’s 2016-2019 Integrated Health Service Plan highlight how collaboration between primary care providers and broader system partners can support transformation towards a more equitable, seamless and integrated system for patients and families. Supporting primary care providers to be active partners, engaged in system design, can lead to greater clinical engagement, clinical quality and clinical change management and is a critical step to advancing integrated systems of care and putting patients first to increase their ability to live healthier at home.”

- Dr. Paul Caulford, Central East LHIN Primary Care Physician Lead

QUICK FACTS

- The Central East LHIN has divided its region into seven sub-regions (*Health Link* communities) which provide a geographic foundation for the development and implementation of local integrated systems of care.
- At present, the target population for *Health Links* Coordinated Care Plans focuses on complex patients with multiple chronic/high cost conditions including:
 - Vulnerable populations (a focus on mental health and addictions conditions, palliative patients, and the frail elderly);
 - Economic characteristics (low income, median household income, government transfers as a proportion of income, unemployment);
 - Social determinants (housing, living alone, language, immigration, community and social services etc.);
 - Complex, high needs patients.
- In addition, patients can be identified as complex and appropriate for a *Health Links* Coordinated Care Plan based on clinical judgment.

LEARN MORE

For more information on the new Primary Care Physician Leads, please visit the Central East LHIN website at www.centraleastlhin.on.ca and click on [“About Us – LHIN Leads.”](#)

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