

February 2010

Waterloo Wellington Welcomes Dr. George Heckman as the WWLHIN Geriatric Lead.

Dr. Heckman in collaboration with the Community Geriatricians, stakeholders including seniors is assisting the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (WW LHIN) in developing and implementing an integrated clinical services plan (ICSP) for frail seniors. To achieve this Dr, Heckman and Jane McKinnon Wilson (Waterloo Wellington Geriatric Systems Coordinator) are embarking on a priority-setting consultation process across the WWLHIN with interested partners in order to identify and set relevant priorities.

Dr. Heckman with input from the Geriatricians and LHIN has developed a set of guiding principles that will serve as a framework as we develop an ICSP for frail seniors in the WW LHIN. Please refer to the accompanying document. (Please see below)

As part of the approach to developing this plan, interested stakeholders including seniors are being interviewed over the course of the next several months. Their responses will be analyzed to identify key geriatric service areas. Once these areas have been identified, a second phase of consultation will occur in which these services will be prioritized, again by the same interested stakeholders. The results will be presented to the community in late 2010.

In addition to one day per week position as WW Geriatric Lead, Dr. Heckman is providing:

- one day of clinical service in some Family Health Teams utilizing a mentoring and clinic base approach and also providing some clinical service within Long Term Care
- three days of research and teaching at the University of Waterloo – Medicine Program

We are very excited to have a Geriatric Lead position within our community and look forward to some exciting opportunities through Dr. Heckman's leadership and partnership with Geriatric Specialists and the overall WWLHIN community.