



Acute Leukemia Provincial Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Acute leukemia is a rapidly progressive cancer. There are two main types of acute leukemia: acute myeloid leukemia and acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Care for adult patients with acute leukemia is complex, resource intensive, requires a high degree of specialization and therefore is centralized to designated centres. The current model for referrals, consultation and treatment is not provincially organized, and the need for acute leukemia care in Ontario is expected to grow in the years to come. In order to better meet the healthcare needs of this patient population in Ontario, provincial-level planning is required.

The Acute Leukemia Provincial Plan is designed to:

- Provide timely access to high-quality, coordinated acute leukemia services for adults, as close to home as possible;
- Focus on optimal outcomes and improved patient experience; and
- Encourage hospitals and providers to work together to form networks of services that are person-centred, evidence based and support evolving clinical practice.

The Acute Leukemia Provincial Plan provides an overview of how adult services are defined and how they should be organized and delivered in Ontario. It was developed collaboratively by regional, clinical and patient representatives through a multi-pronged provincial approach facilitated by Cancer Care Ontario. This Plan sets the stage to achieve a vision of care in Ontario where there will be strong networks of service providers across the province that deliver care in a coordinated way.

Implementation of this Plan will include oversight and development in the following areas:

Service Providers and their Roles

- Provide acute leukemia services within the four defined service designations, and recommended health human resources and organizational support.
- Build capacity to meet the growing healthcare demands of the acute leukemia patient population through the expansion of existing service providers and the development of new service providers.
- Streamline access to consultation and therapy by developing defined catchment areas for referrals.

Implementation of Networks

- Form Regional Networks, belonging to the larger Provincial Network, that will ensure the delivery of high-quality care as close to home as possible.
- Expand existing programs that support the delivery of care closer to home, such as the Acute Leukemia Shared-Care Program.

- Implement recommended models of care that optimize roles within the multidisciplinary team and the use of care settings.
- Support the implementation of the Consensus Pathology Recommendations for Complex Malignant Hematology networks to ensure patients receive the requisite testing within the stated timelines and test results are accessible for clinical decision-making and patient management.

Evidence-Informed Best Practices to Support Best Outcomes

- Create communities of practice and other mechanisms to advance the development and implementation of best practices.
- Implement an acute leukemia funding model that supports the delivery of acute leukemia services.
- Measure quality indicators to assess performance at the system and hospital levels, as well as measure patient outcomes.

Need this information in an accessible format?

1-855-460-2647, TTY (416)217-1815, publicaffairs@cancercare.on.ca CPQ-2280