

# Ontario Surgical Quality Improvement Network

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Fall 2020

46

Number of hospital sites in NSQIP-ON

189

Number of surgical group members on Quorum

53

Number of mentoring relationships in ON-SQIN

41

Number of 2019–2020 year-end SQIPs submitted

18

Estimated average number of pills reduced per prescription during year 1 of the campaign

336

Total number of ON-SQIN members

NSQIP-ON: National Surgical Quality Improvement Program - Ontario

SQIP: Surgical Quality Improvement Plan

ON-SQIN: Ontario Surgical Quality Improvement Network

NSQIP: National Surgical Quality Improvement Program

## Highlights



Dr. Tim Jackson, ON-SQIN Provincial Surgeon Lead

### Reflections on the November 2020 Ontario Surgical Quality Virtual Meeting

There is no doubt this has been a challenging year for all hospitals and surgical programs. Surgical slowdowns and the uncertainty around COVID-19 have further increased backlogs (CMAJ). However, at the Ontario Surgical Quality Virtual Meeting on November 13, 2020, our network focused on success stories and the silver linings that can come from this pandemic.

Dr. Amanda Williamson (Pembroke Regional Hospital), Yousra Hasnain (University Health Network), and Katherine Krupa (Cambridge Memorial Hospital) shared their inspiring success stories for reducing opioids after surgery. Our keynote speaker, Dr. Elizabeth Wick (University of California San Francisco), discussed their organization's pathway called Improving Surgical Care and Recovery. Drs. Jon Irish (Provincial Clinical Lead at Ontario Health), Tom Waddell (University Health Network), and David Schramm (Ottawa Hospital) discussed surgical smoothing, including reassessing the efficiency of their operating rooms. And Dr. David Smith (North York General Hospital) highlighted his lessons learned and successes from implementing virtual care into his routine. Further, we hope to revisit the Enhanced Recovery After Surgery program for our next provincial campaign to optimize patient care and to reduce length of stay in preparation for potential future waves. If you were unable to attend, please email [ONSQIN@ontariohealth.ca](mailto:ONSQIN@ontariohealth.ca) for the recording.

I fully believe some of these changes will help improve patient access and satisfaction in the long-term. I look forward to working together to realize continued improvements in the coming year. Thank you to the speakers and attendees for your participation in this inspiring meeting!

—Dr. Tim Jackson, ON-SQIN Provincial Surgeon Lead

## Coming Up

- Canadian NSQIP Collaborative meeting: December 3, 2020 12-1 p.m.
- Upcoming Surgical Clinical Reviewer meeting: January 11 at 9 a.m.
- Upcoming Surgeon Champion meetings: January 26 and February 23 at 7 a.m.
- Please email us at [ONSQIN@ontariohealth.ca](mailto:ONSQIN@ontariohealth.ca) to share your hospital's work in the next update

To learn more about ON-SQIN and how you can get involved, please [visit our website](#) or contact [ONSQIN@ontariohealth.ca](mailto:ONSQIN@ontariohealth.ca). Past issues of these updates can be found [here](#).

## What's Happening



Cut the Count: Reducing Opioids After Surgery 2019/20 Year-End Results

### Cut the Count Campaign Results Are In!

From April 2019 to April 2020, ON-SQIN teams participated in the second collaborative campaign, *Cut the Count: Reducing Opioids After Surgery*. Preliminary results indicate an estimated potential 650,000 pills not released into the public domain, exceeding our collaborative goal of reducing the number of opioids prescribed by 30%. Since 72% of Ontario surgeries take place in an ON-SQIN hospital, the impact of this campaign is truly significant. Congratulations to all participating network teams!

### ON-SQIN Recognized

The *Ontario Surgical Quality Improvement Network Community of Practice—Improving Surgical Care in Ontario* was awarded the [2020 Ted Freeman Award for Innovation in Education](#). Thank you to all ON-SQIN members for making this program a success!

### Congratulations, ON-SQIN Teams!

Congratulations to the following teams for achieving the American College of Surgeons NSQIP recognition for [Meritorious Outcomes](#) for surgical patient care. These seven hospitals were among 89 of the 607 eligible teams who achieved the distinction based on an outstanding composite quality score:

- Etobicoke General Hospital
- London Health Sciences Centre – University Hospital
- Markham Stouffville Hospital
- Peterborough Regional Health Centre
- St. Michael's Hospital
- Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre
- Thunger Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre

### Committed to Better Campaign Sustains Gains

The July 2020 semi-annual report showed continued gains from the *Committed to Better: Reducing Infection After Surgery* campaign. A review of "all cases" from July 2018 to July 2020 ON-SQIN demonstrates a 14% decrease in SSI, 31% decrease in UTI, and a 9% decrease in pneumonia. This potentially equates to over 11,700 infections avoided!

### MyPractice: General Surgery Report Released

The *MyPractice: General Surgery* report was released November 19th to 51 surgeons across the province. For more information or to sign-up, check out the [MyPractice: General Surgery](#) webpage. If you are participating in *Cut the Count*, these reports can help measure the impact of the changes in your practice.

## Featured Initiatives



Marcelle B. Thibeault, Director—Surgery, Critical Care and Hospital Flow Programs, Montfort Hospital

### Improving Pain Management After Surgery

**Montfort Hospital**—The Montfort Hospital team surpassed the collaborative goal of reducing opioids by 30% while effectively managing their patients' pain. They attribute their success to several factors, including: surgeons lowering the standard post-op opioid prescription for targeted procedures (inguinal hernia, cholecystectomy, and knee and hip replacement), prescriptions scanned directly into the EMR, and improved patient education around post-operative opioid use. Education included information regarding opioid dosages and duration, side-effects, withdrawal symptoms, and appropriate storage and disposal. Congratulations to the team for winning the SQIPPY Excellence in Quality Improvement Implementation!

**London Children's Hospital**—In their latest Surgical Quality Improvement Plan, London Children's Hospital had a 70% reduction in opioids prescribed after ENT surgery, a 60% reduction after orthopedic surgery, and a 98% reduction after general and urology surgery. Change ideas for appropriately reducing opioid use were presented at the hospital's internal Pediatric Surgery Research Day, which motivated surgeons to evaluate their prescribing practice. The team followed up the research day by providing: an education session on the prescribing protocol for outpatient surgical procedures, prescribing guidelines specific to each surgical department (with supporting documents and resources), and education and pamphlets for patients and families. Next steps include creating automated orders with uniquely identified/watermarked prescriptions that expire. Learn more [here](#). Congratulations to the team for winning the SQIPPY Greatest Improvement in Opioid Prescribing Reduction!

### SSI Reductions From Improved Diabetic Care

**Orillia Soldier's Memorial Hospital**—Orillia Soldier's Memorial Hospital (OSMH) has implemented specific changes with the goal of reducing post-surgical infections for diabetic patients. Efforts included hosting education sessions by an internal expert on optimal perioperative glycemic control, using custom fields in the NSQIP workstation to track HbA1c levels, intra-op, and post-op glucose levels, and obtaining a glucose monitor dedicated to the operating room to track pre-operative, intra-operative (for OR duration >90 minutes), and post-operative glucose compliance. As glucose control is one of the change ideas included in the SSI reduction bundle, the team's efforts in this area have helped OSMH become one of the top five hospitals in the Ontario network with the lowest "All Cases SSI rates"! And congratulations to OSMH for winning the SQIPPY Innovation Award!



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