

Ontario Health Teams: What are they? How to get involved?



May 2019

Ontario College of
Family Physicians



New Government Reforms for Ontario's Health Care

*Bill 74, The People's Health Care Act, 2019
(Passed by the legislature on April 18, 2019)*

New Government's Mandate to Address Ontario's Health System Capacity Challenges

1. Patients and families are having difficulty **navigating** the health care system and are **waiting too long** for care.
2. The health care system is facing capacity pressures and is **not appropriately resourced for the projected increase in complex care needs** and capacity pressures.
3. **Effective coordination** is needed at both the system level, and at the point-of-care.

Source: Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, 2019.



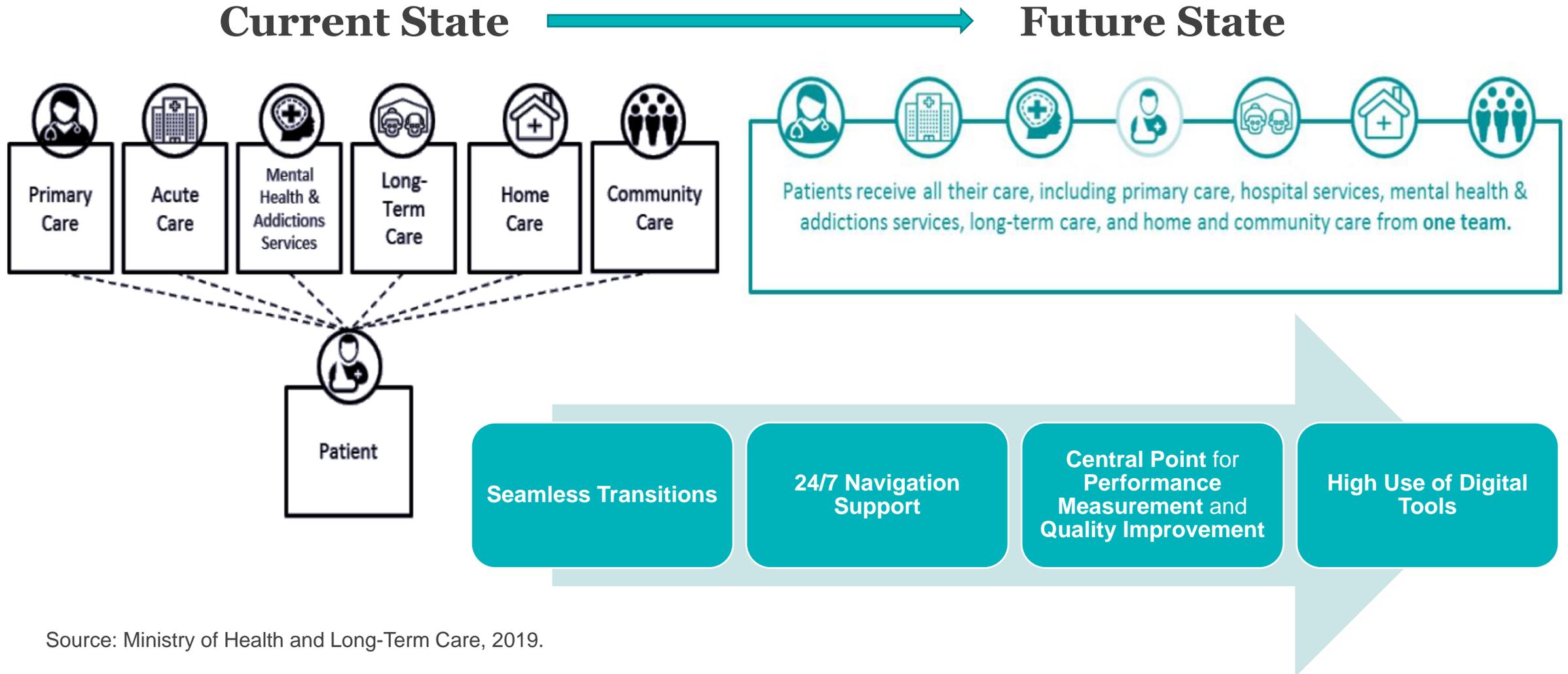
Hallway Health Care: A System Under Strain

1st Interim Report from the Premier's Council on Improving
Healthcare and Ending Hallway Medicine

January 2019



Vision for a 21st Century Approach to Health Care



Ontario Government's Vision for Health System Redesign

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

“Ontario Health”

“Ontario
Health
Teams”

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What are Ontario Health Teams (OHTs)?

New model of care where **a group of providers** (e.g. hospitals, home care, primary care, mental health and others) **voluntarily** come together and self-organize to **deliver a coordinated continuum of care to a defined population or patient segment**. Eventually to be funded through **integrated funding envelope**.

Defined patient population or geography

Single Budget for Pop. Health + Integration

Patient navigation 24/7

Single point of clinical and fiscal accountability***

Outcome-based blended funding model

Risk- and gain-sharing

Shared electronic records

Virtual care

****at maturity*

What is Ontario Health?

Integrates multiple provincial agencies into one single agency.

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

14 Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs)

Funding, Performance Management and Accountability

 CCO, HQO, Trillium Gift of Life, eHealth, Health Shared Services Ontario, HealthForce Ontario Marketing and Recruitment Agency; Others

Quality Standards, Performance Management and Public Reporting



Source: Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, 2019.



Source: Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, 2019.

Physician Engagement and Leadership: Opportunities

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the current status of OHTs?

The **Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care** released a **Guidance Document** for groups of providers and organizations interested in becoming an OHT.

Priority will be given to submissions that include a **minimum three** of the following:

- **primary care,**
- **hospital,**
- **home care, and**
- **community care.**



Ontario Health Teams:

Guidance for Health Care Providers
and Organizations



What will governance look like?

Who will lead the OHT?

Each OHT will determine the **governance structure that best suits its context and needs.**

Terms and Conditions for partnership would include:

- ✓ Conflict and performance management
- ✓ Information management
- ✓ Risk and gain sharing
- ✓ Performance plan

No funding changes in near future; at maturity: one integrated funding envelope.



What does “risk and gain sharing” mean?

- Aligns incentives across different providers and sectors.
- Each partner shares financial gains from efficiencies.
- For OHTs, all savings must be redirected into front line care.
- OMA is seeking further information.



Are OHTs mandatory for Family Physicians?

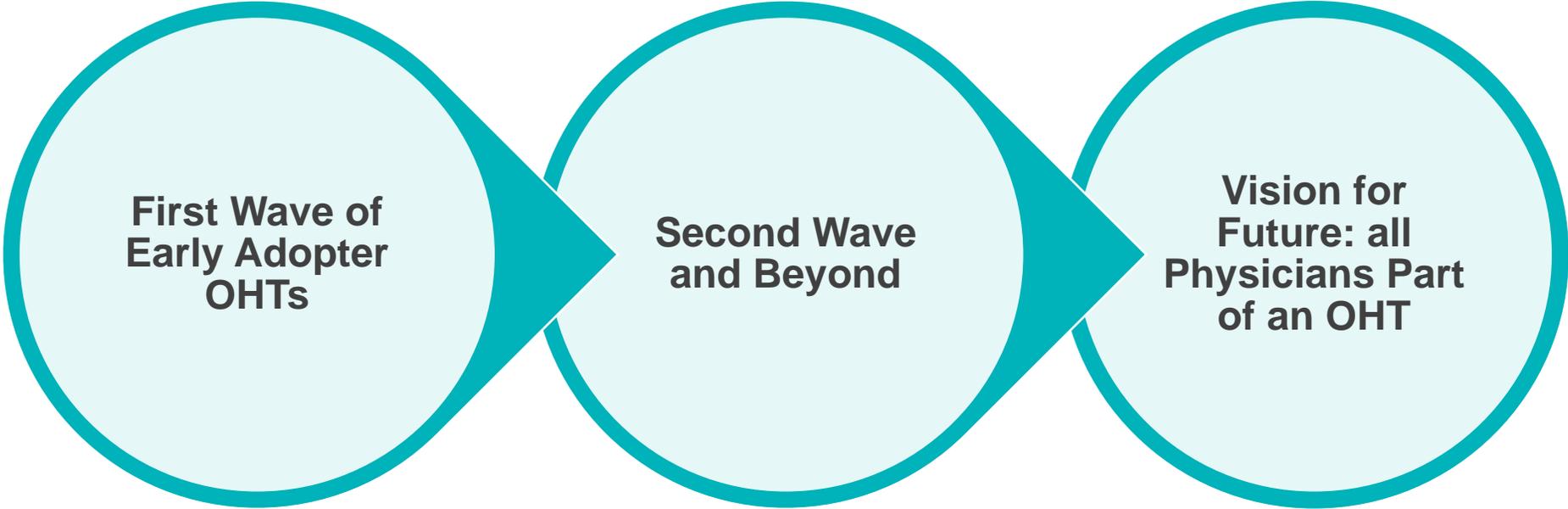
When should I join one?

- At this time, OHT participation is **voluntary**.
- Depends on:
 - ❑ **interest,**
 - ❑ **existing connections** or **partnerships,** and
 - ❑ **readiness to engage.**

Options for Family Doctors:

1. Help lead an OHT
2. Participate in an OHT
3. Wait for the time being and remain in the loop

OHTs: Phased Approach Until Broad Provincial Rollout



What are the steps involved in forming an OHT ?



** Government will provide matchmaking and support to advance readiness*

Should I get involved in an OHT?

Considerations for Family Physicians

Improved Care Delivery

more seamless and integrated care experience

extended suite of supports

more focus on patient care; less on admin

new or shared accountabilities

Risk- and gain-sharing
practice autonomy

governance responsibilities

contract management

QI & performance management

Family Physicians Leading & Affecting Change

leadership opportunities for FPs:

- influence on structure, governance and goals
- supporting change among peers

needs to be enabled and equipped with:

- proper guidance
- leadership support

Can I join regardless of my practice model?

Yes.

- As per Ministry's Guidance Document, the criteria for an OHT are not tied to any particular type of practice model.



Ontario Health Teams:

Guidance for Health Care Providers
and Organizations



Scenario 1:

If you already have connections across settings and with other providers and are ready to engage.

- You may be a family doctor already functioning with your local 'team' and already know who your local family physician and primary care leadership might be in a potential OHT.
- Family physicians part of a group and considering submitting a self-assessment can contact:
 - The **Ontario Medical Association**, or
 - The **Section on General and Family Practice**, or
 - The **Association of Family Health Teams of Ontario**

Ontario Health Team Self-Assessment Form

Part I: General Information and Commitments

Who are the members of your team?

Please identify the list of health care providers and/or organizations that would partner to form the proposed Ontario Health Team. Please explain why this group of providers and organizations has chosen to partner together.

Scenario 2: If you are approached to join or considering joining an OHT.

1. Do I have **pre-existing relationships** with partners in other sectors/settings?
2. Same page as the other partners? **Do we share a common vision?**
3. Are **roles** and **responsibilities** of all partners **clear? What will each contribute?**
 - Will these roles and responsibilities still need to be defined?
 - Will I have an opportunity to participate in scoping those definitions?
4. Is there a **governance model? Is there a family physician leader at the table?**
 - If not, can I scope the model to ensure there are FPs at the table?
5. **How will FPs participate in on-going implementation?**
 - How will I be part of clinical decision-making in the OHT, not just in the set up, but as it rolls out?
6. If I choose not to voluntarily participate, **does that mean my patients may not be able to access OHT resources?**
7. **What does success look like for each partner? What are the measures? Outcomes?**
8. **Will my time be compensated?**
 - Others around the planning table are salaried, what if I am not?

Scenario 3: What if I don't want to be involved?

- Many FPs are not involved in any group governance; you may wish to “wait and see”.
- We encourage you to:
 - keep apprised of what is happening in your community
 - connect with other family physician leaders who may be participating.
- **The OCFP can help connect you if you are not certain.**

What are the timelines for OHT rollout?

Assessment process	Dates
Open call for self-assessments	April 3, 2019
Deadline to submit self-assessments*	May 15, 2019
Selected groups will be invited to submit a full application	June 3, 2019
Deadline to submit full applications	July 12, 2019
Announce Ontario Health Teams	Fall 2019
The Ministry will continue to accept, assess and evaluate groups interested in becoming an Ontario Health Team	Future deadlines will be announced

**Those deemed to be in the beginning stage of readiness will receive access to supports to continue working towards further readiness.*

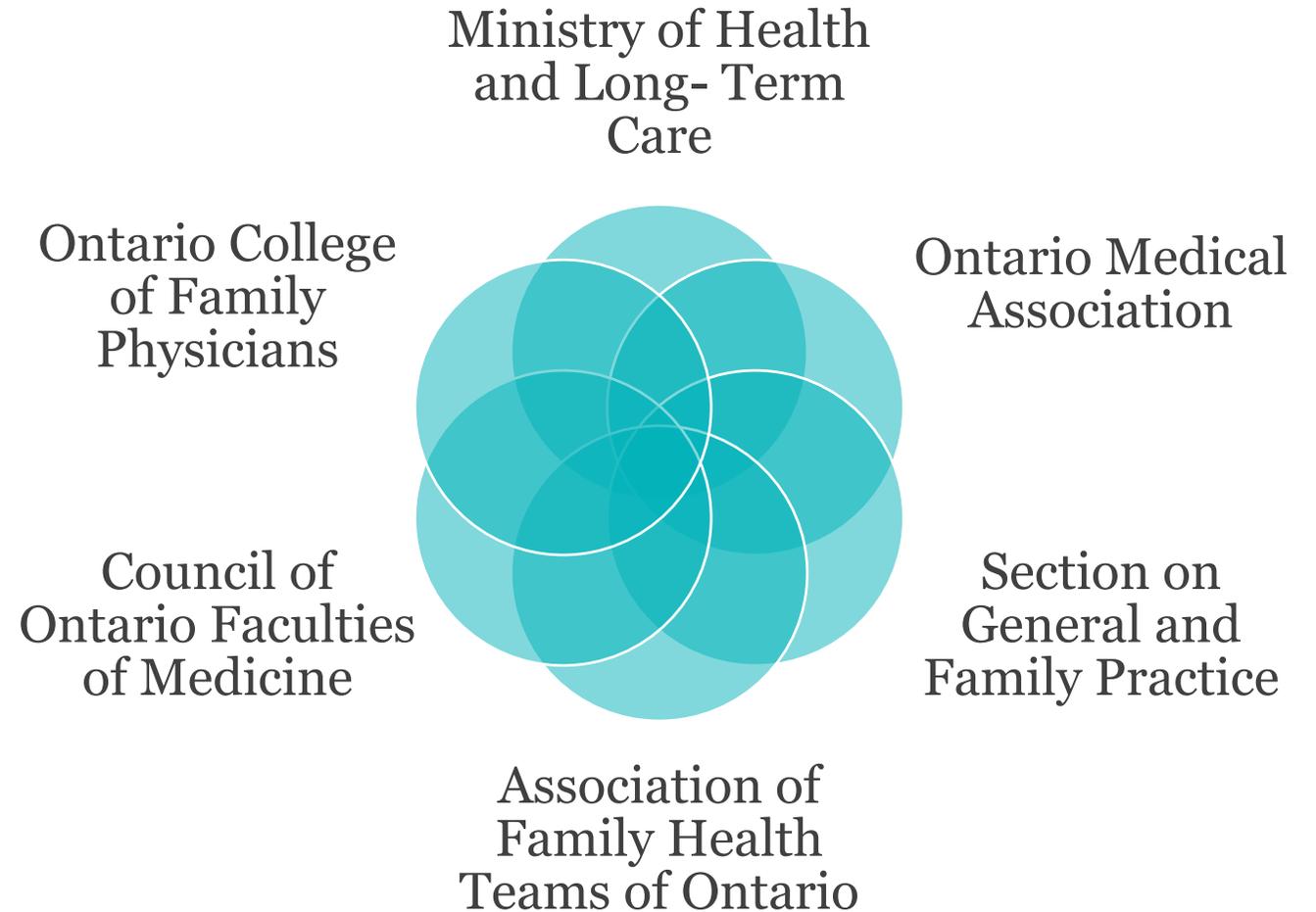
Source: Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, 2019.

OCCFP's Role

Supporting family physician leadership and seamless comprehensive care for patients across Ontario

Working Collaboratively to Support FPs

- 1. Family physician leadership and driving change.**
- 2. Advocating for the importance of anchoring OHTs in primary care, through the principles of the Patient's Medical Home.**
- 3. No practice or patient left behind.**



How do I learn more?

- Speak to other family physician leaders in your community about some of the activity already underway or email us at ocfp@ocfp.on.ca.
 - If we do not have an answer to your question right away, we will reach out to the Ministry to try and get it.
- You can also **email** our colleagues at:
 - The **OMA** at [OMA OHT@oma.org](mailto:OMA_OHT@oma.org), or
 - The **Section on General and Family Practice, OMA**, at OHT@sgfp.ca, or
 - The **Association of Family Health Teams of Ontario** at info@afhto.ca (if part of a FHT or want to connect with a FHT).

How do I learn more?

The Ministry has provided the following **list of resources** as background on the OHT process:

- [Become an Ontario Health Team](#)
- [Ontario Health Teams: Guidance for Health Care Providers and Organizations](#)
- [Ontario Health Team Self-Assessment Form](#)

You can also **contact the Ministry** directly as follows:

- Email OntarioHealthTeams@ontario.ca for any questions related to OHTs and the application process, including self-assessments.
- Sign up to receive the Ministry's [Connected Care Updates](#), including information about upcoming webinars.

Let us know what you think

The OCFP is committed to supporting you through this change, wherever you are within this process.

We will continue to keep you updated and invite you to share your input and the support you need from us.

Have ideas or questions? Email us at ocfp@ocfp.on.ca.

