



BOARD REPORT

Friday March 15, 2013

Program Report March 2013



101 17th Street East, Owen Sound, ON N4K 0A5
519-376-9420 1-800-263-3456

WEBSITE: www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca

We work with the Grey Bruce community to protect and promote health.

CLIENT SERVICES

Smokers' HelplinePage 1

ENFORCEMENT / RESEARCH / SURVEILLANCE

Recreational Water.....Page 2
REACH Page 2-3
Indoor Air Quality in Public Ice ArenasPage 3

HEALTHY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Healthcare Worker Influenza Immunization Rates.....Page 4
Facility Immunization RatesPage 4

CLIENT SERVICES

Smokers' Helpline

On January 17, the Southwest Regional Co-ordinator for the Smokers' Helpline visited Grey Bruce to present to Public Health and the Grey Bruce Health Services. The intent of the presentations was to educate on the role of the Smokers' Helpline and how to incorporate tobacco cessation techniques into our work. Presentations were delivered at separate sites to encourage attendance and to allow for participants to share common experiences.

Topics covered Smokers' Helpline services, the five major steps to intervention (5A's: ask, advise, assess, assist, and arrange), the process to refer clients to Smokers' Helpline for counselling and protocols for supporting pregnant women trying to quit smoking.

The Smokers' Helpline presented to 13 Public Health staff working in various programs including Dental, Health Promotion, Infection Control, Health Baby Healthy Children, Child Health and Sexual Health. The Grey Bruce Health Services Owen Sound site participants included midwives and physicians.

ENFORCEMENT / RESEARCH / SURVEILLANCE

Recreational Water

One of the *Public Health Accountability Agreement Performance Indicators* is the percentage of Class A pools inspected while in operation. The 2012 target for the Grey Bruce Health Unit was 75%. To meet inspection criteria, all Class A pools must be inspected every three months while seasonal pools must be inspected on at least two occasions. Advice visits, complaint investigations and re-visits do not count for this indicator. While it is possible to inspect a year-round Class A pool on multiple occasions, missing one quarter means missing the target.

Seasonal pools, which are only open for six or eight weeks, require two inspection visits. If one inspection is missed, then the premise doesn't show as inspected regardless of how many times it has been visited. The 2011 baseline for this indicator was 52%. Meeting the 2012 target of 75% required an increase in the number of inspections and coordination to ensure the right type of inspection was carried out and in a timely manner.

For 2012, the Grey Bruce Health Unit achieved 88.5% completion rate; a significant improvement on the previous year and well above our 75% target. The hard work of staff and the use of the HealthSpace electronic inspection system helped to ensure we had no miss-timed or needless inspections. Meeting the 2013 target of 100% will require a 5% increase in the number of inspections.

Reporting Year	Accountability Indicator	Completion Rate
2011	Baseline established	52%
2012	75%	88.5%

REACH

The Grey Bruce Health Unit is actively involved in the REACH trial (Reducing risk with E-based support for Adherence to lifestyle Change in Hypertension). This continues our involvement over the past ten years in associated trials, COHRT (Community Outreach Heart Health and Risk Reduction) and I-START (Internet-based Strategic Trans-disciplinary Approach to Risk Reduction and Treatment).

Under the lead of Dr. Rob Nolan, University Health Network, Toronto, REACH offers a program of e-based support to lower blood pressure and cholesterol and improve overall well-being through changes in exercise, diet and smoking. The one year trial will evaluate the e-counseling technique looking at best practice to combine pharmacotherapy with on-line, lifestyle counselling. Grey Bruce is one of four locations involved in this research; other sites are Toronto, London and Vancouver.

Individuals diagnosed with Stage 1 or 2 hypertension and who are at elevated risk for cardiovascular disease may be eligible to participate. The program is free of charge and it does not require any change to medical treatment.

Hypertension is a serious concern in Grey Bruce. Individuals with elevated systolic blood pressure are at increased risk for cardiovascular disease, stroke, coronary heart disease and heart failure. On average, 47 people are hospitalized and 11 people die each week in Grey Bruce as a result of cardiovascular disease *Cardiovascular Disease in Grey Bruce: 2000 – 2010* (2012).

Cont...

We are providing a research assistant for the local trial. She will screen clients for eligibility and conduct clinic assessment visits. Recruitment has primarily been through the Heart & Stroke website supplemented by additional local recruitment strategies.



Public Health Registered Practical Nurse Laurie Moore takes blood pressure of REACH participant Cathy Piper of Penetanguishene.

Indoor Air Quality in Public Ice Arenas

A comparative study of ice arena air quality related to monitoring schedules was undertaken in 2012. The intent of the study was to inform inspection procedures related to the day and time that air monitoring was carried out. It was hypothesized that air quality in arenas during peak hours of usage (e.g. evenings and weekends) may differ from that observed during conventional workday hours.

The routine inspection practice is to visit each local arena once annually during standard work day hours. During this visit, facility ventilation and ice maintenance equipment are assessed and carbon monoxide (CO) levels in the air are tested. In 2012, two inspections of each facility were conducted: one during peak hours and the other during standard work day hours.

A total of 33 arenas were checked. The results of CO tests conducted during these inspections appear in the table below.

	Regular Hour Results	Peak Hour Results
Mean CO level (ppm)	2.75	8.0
Range (ppm)	0 - 21	0 - 50
Number events where the maximum allowable limit of 25 ppm was detected	0	3

The results of this study indicate that, in general, the air quality in local arenas is very good. Of the 66 checks performed last year, only three yielded results in excess of the maximum allowable concentration. However, the results do suggest that air quality deteriorates during peak hours of operation.

In response to these findings, the annual inspection schedule will be adjusted to ensure arena visits are conducted during peak hours. Additionally, the study results will be shared with facility owner/operators with recommendations for increased vigilance during peak hours to ensure that optimum ventilation practices are employed. Owner/operators will be provided with a copy of *Guidelines for Indoor Air Quality in Arenas*, Ontario Recreation Facilities Association (2011).

HEALTHY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Healthcare Worker Influenza Immunization Rates

Healthcare worker influenza vaccination rates are up across Grey Bruce. Retirement homes posted an average vaccination rate of 75%, up slightly from 72% in 2011; local nursing homes averaged 74%, up from 69%; and local hospital rates averaged 62%, up from 60%. Additionally, vaccination rates for residents are at 92% for nursing homes and 91% for retirement homes.

All figures are as of December 15, 2012; current rates may be higher at sites where staff received the vaccine after the reporting date. Each year, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care requires health units to report the vaccine rates for healthcare workers in hospitals, nursing homes and retirement homes. Historically, November 15 was the annual reporting deadline. However, the Ministry recognized that date posed challenges for many facilities and the reporting deadline was extended to December 15.

The following rates are as of December 15, 2012 and are submitted to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

Average Rates

Category	Residents	Staff
Nursing Homes / Homes for the Aged	92%	74%
Retirement Homes	91%	75%
Hospitals		62%
Grey Bruce Health Unit		89%

Facility Rates - Retirement Homes

Facility	Residents	Staff
Central Place	87%	98%
Choices Living Retirement Residence	83%	75%
Elgin Abbey Lodge	93%	90%
Elgin Lodge (Kingsway Arms)	93%	56%
Errinrunc Retirement Home	65%	81%
Hampton Court	97%	86%
Kelso Pines Retirement Lodge	98%	76%
Kelso Villa Retirement Home	93%	83%
Malcolm Place	82%	27%
Maple Court Villa	100%	57%
McVean Lodge (Hanover Care Centre)	84%	82%
New Horizons Retirement Home Inc.	100%	93%
Nine Mile Villa	100%	72%
Owen Sound Retirement - Hannah Walker Place	85%	77%
Owen Sound Retirement - John Joseph Place	97%	87%
R-Villa Retirement Living	100%	96%
Seasons Owen Sound	84%	52%
Sepoy Manor	100%	no data
Summit Place Lodge	94%	57%
Tiverton Park Manor	92%	76%
Trillium Court Lodge	97%	88%

Facility Rates-Nursing Homes/Homes for the Aged

Facility	Residents	Staff
Brucelea Haven	86%	69%
Country Lane	97%	100%
Elgin Abbey Nursing Home	96%	100%
Errinrunc Nursing Home	93%	82%
Gateway Haven	97%	78%
Georgian Heights	100%	95%
Golden Dawn	91%	93%
Grey Gables	95%	66%
Hanover Care Centre	93%	83%
Lee Manor	83%	56%
MapleView	100%	64%
Meaford Long Term Care	100%	55%
Parkview Manor H.C.C.	94%	85%
Pinecrest Manor	98%	70%
Rockwood Terrace	91%	88%
Southampton Care Centre	82%	79%
Summit Place	100%	87%
Trillium Court	100%	70%
Village Seniors Community	90%	57%

Facility Rates - Hospitals

Facility	Staff
Grey Bruce Health Services	66%
Lion's Head and Tobermory	91%
Markdale	78%
Meaford	73%
Owen Sound	64%
Southampton	65%
Warton	65%
South Bruce Grey Health Services	51%
Chesley	54%
Durham	63%
Kincardine	45%
Walkerton	52%
Hanover District Hospital	53%