

Mental Health and Addictions: Strategy, Measurement and Outcomes

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Ontario has taken significant steps to support and move forward with evidence-based care

The ***Excellent Care for All Act, 2010***, passed in June 2010, puts patients first by improving the quality and value of the patient experience through the application of evidence-based health care.

With quality of health care improving from evidence-based care, costs can be better contained and even reduced, resulting in strengthened sustainability

Evidence-based care improves on the quality of health care, for example by reducing unnecessary procedures or clinically-ineffective practices.

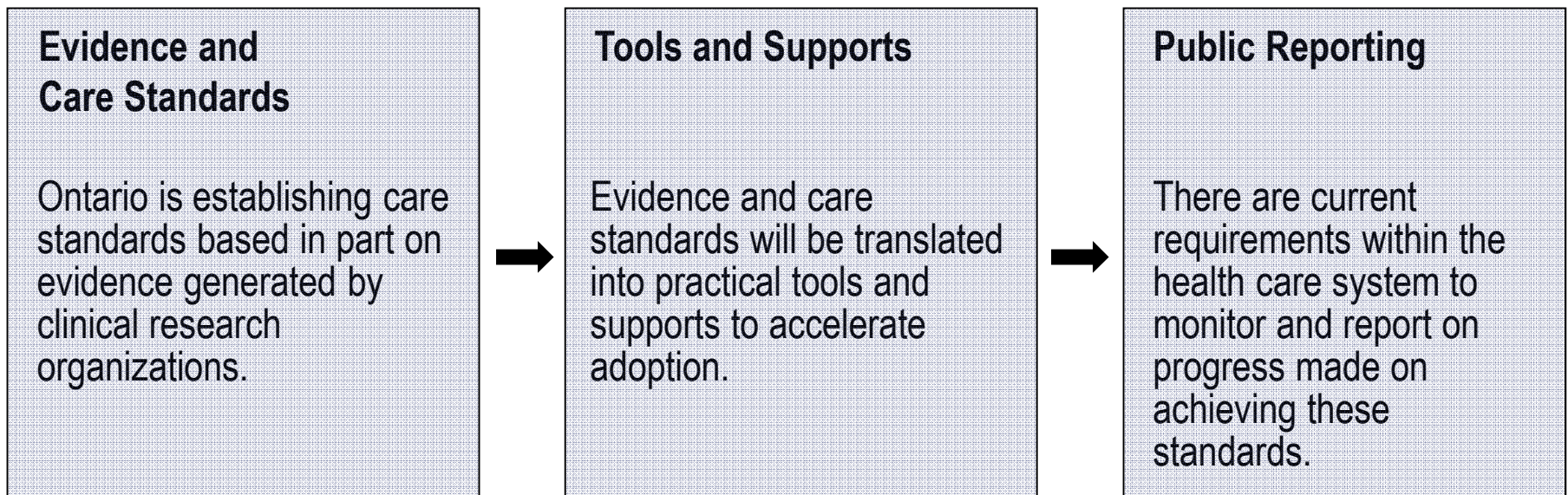
Excellence and quality are transforming the health agenda

The ***Excellent Care for All Act, 2010*** puts patients first by improving the quality and value of the patient experience through evidence-based health care.

Key Concepts of ECFAA:

1. Organizational responsibility for quality (hospitals first)
 - Establish quality committees
 - Develop annual quality improvement plans (QIPs)
 - Hold executives accountable for QIPs through pay-at-risk
 - Patient and employee satisfaction surveys
 - Have a patient relations process
 - Produce a patient declaration of values
2. Health Quality Ontario (HQO)
 - Evidence-based care delivery: standards setting, funding recommendations
 - Quality improvement: tools, training, templates
 - Public reporting

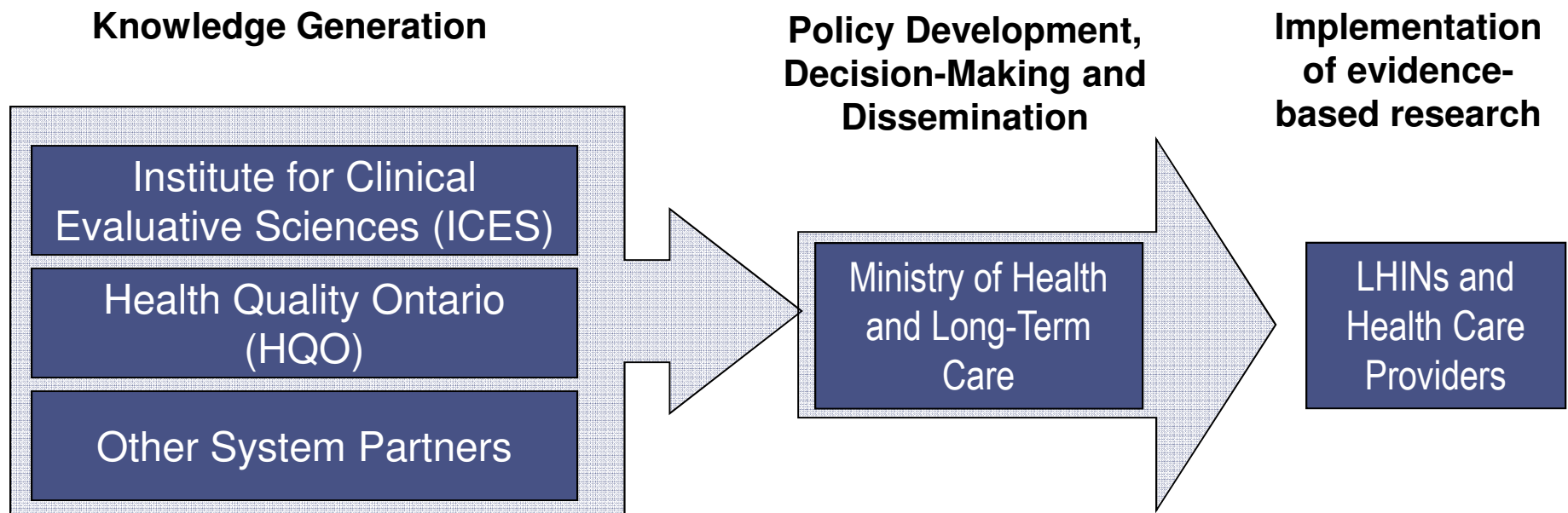
Ontario is integrating evidence-based care standards through tools and supports for health care providers, and public reporting



Enhanced quality of care results when research knowledge is translated to health care providers

The Ministry works closely with health sector research partners, including research institutes, universities and agencies to generate the needed evidence that serves as the basis for Ontario's clinical standards of care.

Knowledge exchange activities bring research evidence into Ministry policy development, strategy development and planning.



Measuring system sustainability

Definition and components of a sustainable system:

- affordable to society (affordability)
- high quality and appropriate care (quality and appropriateness)
- ensures inter-generational equity
- maintains desirable health outcomes
- value for money but does not compromise the ability to meet the health and other needs of current and future generations

Established link between the social determinants of health, but the relationship is hard to quantify:

- how do you measure what can't be ignored?
- composite indicators that oversimplify the current state of the system will mask the true outcomes of component activities

Challenges:

- private spending within the public system
- capturing the whole system

Mental Health and Addictions Strategy

- In June 2011 the Comprehensive Mental Health and Addictions Strategy (MHA Strategy) was released in partnership with the Ministries of Children and Youth Services (MCYS), Education (EDU), Attorney General, and Training Colleges and Universities
- The MHA Strategy was developed with input from two key sources- The Select Committee of the Legislature and Minister's Advisory Group
- The MHA Strategy will start with a three year Action Plan focused on children and youth mental health

MHA Strategy Scorecard and Evaluation

Scorecard

- Performance indicators for monitoring progress on the strategy and outcomes for clients
 - start with children and youth
 - continuum of mental health and addictions services
 - link to sectors such as children and youth services, education, justice and social services
 - social determinants of health
- Adaptable to encompass outcomes for adult mental health and addictions services
- Public reports

Evaluation

- Overall evaluation of the strategy
- Initiatives will also be evaluated individually
- Framework will identify specific areas for study,
 - e.g. Strategy's effects on client experience
- Quantitative and qualitative

Concluding Remarks

Ontario has taken significant steps to support and promote evidence-based care with the adoption of its Mental Health and Addictions Strategy.

Implementation will continue this focus on evidence-based care by supporting the effective translation of evidence and data to inform decision-making and standards of care in the health system.

Policy and decision makers will also have to confront difficult question:

- how do you differentiate between cause and effect when data for planning and policy purposes?
- since the health care continuum is not just about points of care how can prevention, promotion, public health and a wide-range of other social services be captured?
- how do you stay sensitive to other system factors that may contribute as much or more to reducing the burden on health: families, housing, supports, education, etc.?