

Invitation for Proposals

This Request for Proposals ("RFP") is an invitation to licensed physicians currently providing primary care services (a "prospective proponent") to submit proposals for the provision of Primary Care (PC) Lead services within the geographic area of one of the fourteen Local Health Integration Networks (the "LHINs"). The services to be provided by the PC Leads are described in greater detail in the RFP. Please note that this RFP is being issued by all the LHINs, but prospective proponents are to submit their proposals to the LHIN contact (Rick Blaxall) specifying which LHIN they are applying to (which will be the LHIN in which they are currently working).

Background to RFP

In order to meet the needs of patients, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) and the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) are working closely with the LHINs and healthcare professionals to help implement a comprehensive Primary Health Care (PHC) Strategy. The strategy is designed to improve quality, access and system integration through:

- Initiatives to increase roistering of unattached patients as outlined in the 2008 Physician Services
- Initiatives to facilitate family physician (FP) efforts across the LHINs to address local challenges or meet targets (which may include issues such as: ALC, ER wait times, Chronic Disease Management, etc)
- Initiatives to improve the efficient utilization of existing resources; and
- Initiatives to reduce demand by meeting patient needs in new ways.

Recognizing that primary care is an essential component of health care delivery and critically important to advancing strategic directions at both the provincial and local level, LHINs will retain PC Leads who will work on a part-time basis with their respective LHIN to advance the PHC strategy.

The creation of the PC Lead role is intended to strengthen purposefully and focus the efforts that local primary care providers and LHINs have made to date to address local challenges. The Lead role will act primarily as a champion and strong strategic communicator between the primary care sector and the individual LHIN.

The PC Lead role will help ensure that the extensive resources and capabilities in the primary health care sector are fully utilized in an integrated fashion to ensure the efficient attainment of local health system priorities, while also providing strategic advice to the LHIN and the Province of Ontario in facilitating enhancements in the primary care sector.

To these ends, the Leads will need the support of their LHIN organization and staff, the support of existing LHIN Leads (including Emergency Department [ED], Critical Care, Diabetes, Cancer, and other Leads as appropriate to each LHIN), each other's support, the support of the Physician-LHIN Tripartite Committee (PLTC), and access to comprehensive data regarding local primary care service provision (including distribution by type, number, enrolment, service profile, and capacity of patient-enrolment models). Key to the success of the Lead role will be the direct engagement of physicians, such that they are empowered in the local decision-making process leading to integrated, seamless care for patients.

Questions about this posting should be directed to Rick Blaxall, Procurement Specialist, LHIN Shared Services Office (LSSO) at Rick.Blaxall@lhins.on.ca.